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SIR,

I NOW turned about to the Eaſt; and as, when I went Weſt, I kept to the Southern Coaſt of this long County of *Cornwall*, and of *Devonſhire* alſo, ſo, in going Eaſt, I ſhall keep the North Shore. The firſt Place of any Note, we came to, was *St. Ives*, a pretty good Town, and grown rich by the Fiſhing Trade. It is ſituated on the Weſt-ſide of a deep Bay, called *St. Ives-bay*, from

the Town. This Bay is oppoſite, on the Land-ſide, to *Mount*'s-*bay*, which I ſpoke of in my laſt; but it is filled up with Sands, and here is but very little Trade in any thing elſe but *Corniſh* Slate.

It is a very pleaſant View we have at *Madern-hills*, and the Plain by them, in the Way from the *Land's-end* to *St. Ives*; where we have a Proſpect of the Ocean at the *Land's-end*, Weſt; of the *Britiſh* Chanel at *Mount*'s-*bay*, South; and the *Briſtol* Chanel, or *Severn* Sea, North. At *St. Ives* the Land between the two Bays, being not above four or five Miles over, is ſo ſituated, that upon the Hill neither of the two Seas are above three Miles off, and very plain to be ſeen; and ſo likewiſe, in a clear Day, are the Iſlands of *Scilly*, tho' above 30 Miles off. *St. Ives* is a Borough-town, and ſends two Members to Parliament.

The Country from hence to *Padſtow* is both fruitful and pleaſant, and ſeveral Houſes of Gentlemen are ſeen as we paſs; the Sands alſo are very agreeable to the Eye, and to travel upon: among the Gentlemens Houſes is *Lanhidrock*, the Seat of the Earls of *Radnor*, who are Barons of *Truro*, and were ſo, long before they obtained the Title of *Radnor*; alſo a good Houſe belonging to the antient Family of *Trefuſis*.

The Hills are fruitful of Tin, Copper, and Lead, all the Way on our Right-hand; the Product of which is carried all to the other Shore: ſo that we ſhall have little to ſay of it here. The chief Buſineſs on this Shore is the Herring-fiſhing: the Herrings about *October* come driving up the *Severn* Sea, and from the Coaſt of *Ireland*, in prodigious Shoals, and beat all upon this Coaſt as high as *Bidiford* and *Barnſtable* in *Devonſhire*; and are caught in great Quantities by the Fiſhermen, chiefly on Account of the Merchants of *Falmouth*, *Foy*, *Plymouth*, and other Ports on the South.

St.

St. Michael's, or *Modiſhole*, a mean Portreve Borough, tho' it ſends 2 Members to Parliament, is not now remarkable; but was of great Note in the *Saxon* Time, and has ſtill a Market weekly, and a yearly Fair.

We then came to *St. Columb*'s, a little Market-town, a Lordſhip belonging to the *Arundels* of *Wardour*; ſo called, to diſtinguiſh them from the *Arundels* of *Trerice* in this County; which Family, eſpouſing the King's Side in the Civil Wars, ſuffered much, and was innobled in *Charles* II.'s Time. The *Wardour* Family was likewiſe loyal, and ſuffered in the ſame Cauſe.

Near this Place is a Hill, which has a Rampire on the Summit of it, and a Cauſeway leading to it. 'Tis an old *Daniſh* Camp, and called *Caſtellum Danis*.

Padſtow is a large Town, and ſtands on a very good Harbour for ſuch Shipping as uſe the *Iriſh* Trade. The Harbour is the Mouth of the River *Camel*, or *Camal*, which, riſing at *Camelford*, runs down by *Bodmyn* to *Wadbridge*, a little Town, where a large Stone Bridge, of about eight Arches, is built, by the Contributions of the Country Gentlemen; at the Motion, and under the Direction, of one *Nicolas Lovibond*, Vicar of *Wadbridge*; the Paſſage over the River before being very dangerous, and having occaſioned the Loſs of ſome Lives, as well as Goods.

The Paſſage from this Town of *Padſtow* to *Ireland* is ſaid, by Writers, to be no more than 24 Hours; but this, if ever done, hath been ſo ſeldom, that it ought not to be mentioned as generally the Caſe: for I believe not one in 24 Ships makes its Voyage in ſo few Hours; and that they are oftener five or ſix Days in the Paſſage. Here is a very antient Seat, like a Caſtle, of a Family of the Name of *Prideaux*, the Chief of which, in Queen *Elizabeth*'s Time, built this noble Seat.

Higher within the Land lies the Market and Borough-town of *Bodmyn*, formerly one of the Coining-towns of Tin, till it loſt that Privilege to *Leſtwithyel*: However, it ſtill enjoys ſeveral Advantages, beſides that of returning Members to Parliament, ſome of which are Tokens of its Antiquity. It is pretty large, and ſtands between two Hills, in a good Air. It had antiently ſeveral Churches, of which now only one remains, which belonged to the Priory; and is, at preſent, the Pariſh-church. A kind of Carnival is kept here yearly, in *July*, whither great Numbers of People reſort.

The Coinage-towns were, in Queen *Elizabeth*'s Time, four; namely,

Leskard, *Leſtwithyel*, } { *Truro*, *Helſton*.

Since that, in King *James*'s Time, was added *Penſance*.

Camelford is a mean, but antient Borough-town. Here the River *Camel* riſes, which takes its Name from the *Britiſh* Word *Cam*, i. e. *crooked*. It has not either Church or Chapel in it, nor ever had. It is only remarkable, beſides its returning Members to Parliament, for two great Battles which were fought here; one between King *Arthur* and his Nephew *Mordred*; and the other between the *Britons* and *Saxons*.

The Borough of *Boſſiney*, otherwiſe called *Trevena*, is but a ſmall Village. It is famous for the ſplendid Ruins of an impregnable Caſtle, built on the Rock, which ſtood partly on the Continent, and partly on an Iſland, joined together by a Draw-bridge. The Caſtle was the Seat of the *Britiſh* Princes, and ſince, of the Dukes of *Cornwall*: and, 'tis ſaid, *Arthur* was born here, and died, in one of the above-mentioned Battles, near *Camelford*. This Place ſends two Members to Parliament; as does the next, to wit,

Launceſton,

Launceſton, which is a Corruption of the *Britiſh* Word *Lanſtuphadon*, i. e. *St. Stephen*'s Church: it is a Market and Borough-town, pretty neat, and is ſituate on a riſing Ground, at the Extremity of the County, on the Borders of *Devonſhire*. Great Part of it is very old, ragged, and decayed.

When *Richard* Earl of *Cornwall* had the Government of this County, this was a Frontier-town, well walled about, and fortified; and had alſo a noble Caſtle, which, from its Strength, was called *Caſtle Terrible*. The Inhabitants; for the Defence and Repair of it, held formerly the Lands here by Caſtleguard.

Here the Lord *Hopton*'s good Fortune failed him, and he was forced by *Fairfax* to diſband his Army.

Not far from hence is *Hengeſton-hill*, which produces a great Plenty of *Corniſh* Diamonds: here the *Corniſh Britons* joined the *Danes*, to drive out the *Saxons* from *Devonſhire*; but were totally defeated by *Egbert* in 831. which, 'tis conjectured, gives the Name of *Hengiſt* to this Hill, in Commemoration of their firſt Leader.

Newport is a little Village adjoining, and was formerly Part of *Launceſton*; and yet ſends two Members to Parliament: and, indeed, there are no leſs than 44; and the Number of Electors are ſo few, in many of the Places, that an Adminiſtration, of which Side ſoever it be, as to Party, has uſually a great Reliance on the Elections in this County every new Parliament, in order to obtain a Majority in the Houſe of Commons: for 44 Members from hence, and 45 from another Part of the Iſland, who generally go one Way, make no ſmall Figure in a Queſtion. And, in this Caſe, it may not be improperly obſerved, that the two Extremities of the Iſland, let the other Parts go as they will, are generally united in the ſame Way of Thinking, or at leaſt of Acting, in all political Debates; and are likely to be ſo in all Times to come.

There is a fine Image or Figure of *Mary Magdalen*, upon the Tower of the Church at *Launceſton*, to which the Papiſts fail not to pay Reverence, as they paſs by. There is no Tin, Copper, or Lead, found hereabouts, as I could hear; nor any Manufacture in the Place. There are a pretty many Attorneys here, who manage Buſineſs for the reſt of their Fraternity at the Aſſizes. As to Trade, it has not much to boaſt of; and yet there are People enough in it to excuſe thoſe who call it a populous Place. There is a long Nook of the County runs North from this Place, called the *Hundred of* Stratton, in which there is one Market-town, named *Stratton*; but it has nothing in or about it worth remarking: yet once it had, in *Stow-houſe*, built by the Earl of *Bath*, in the Reign of King *Charles* II. and as to its Finiſhings within, not inferior to any in *England*. The Carvings, eſpecially thoſe of the Chapel, the grand Alcove, and ſome of the beſt Rooms, were done by the Hand of *Michael Chuke*; and were not to be excelled by *Gibbon* himſelf. The Landſchape, and Seapieces, of which there were a great Number (particularly in the great Stairs, a Proſpect of *Plymouth*, containing 22 Feet by 12), were the Work of *Vandeiſt*. The Situation of this ſtately Palace rendering it a diſagreeable Habitation, the Owners diſpoſed of the Materials; and it is now totally demoliſhed. Near this Town, Sir *Ralph Hopton* defeated the Parliament-Forces under the Command of Major-General *Chudleigh*, and took him Priſoner; for which he was made Baron *Stratton*. 'Tis ſaid, the Place where this Battle was fought produced a prodigious Crop of Barley, of 10 or 12 Ears on a Stalk, the next Year.

Not far from *Bodmyn*, is to be ſeen the Set of monumental Stones, called *The Hurlers*; which Dr. *Stukely* ſays, are, out of Doubt, Remains of an antient

antient *Druid* Temple. Probably they are called by this Name, from the Game of Hurling, practiſed in theſe Parts; the Country-people giving them that for want of a better: and indeed, it is ſaid, that they have a ſuperſtitious Notion, that they were once Men, who were transformed into Stones, for playing at this Sport on a *Sunday*. They are oblong, rude, unhewn Stones, pitched on one End upon the Ground. They ſtand on a Down in three Circles, the Centres whereof are in a right Line, the middlemoſt Circle being the greateſt.

Now I have mentioned the *Hurlers*, I muſt take the Opportunity to deſcribe the *Hurling Match*, for which the *Corniſh* Men are ſo particularly famous, and which is one of their principal Recreations, tho' barbarous enough. A Silver Ball is generally the Prize, on theſe Occaſions. The Match is made in different Manners; for ſometimes the Challenge is by twenty or thirty Men on a Side, and no others are to interfere; at other times, when a great Number of People are aſſembled at a *Wake*, or *Church-ale*, the Word is given out, *That* Johns, Wills, *and* Toms, *will oppoſe all other Names*; or, at other times, *That* Eldeſt *or* Seconds *are againſt all* Younger Sons: and ſo the Ball is thrown up, and becomes the Property of that Party which carries it away to the Goal ſet for that Purpoſe.

But another kind of *Hurling* is, when an *Out-ball*, as they call it, is thrown up; and theſe Matches are generally made by two or more neighbouring Gentlemen, who, at a Day agreed on, bring each of them the Men of two, three, or more Pariſhes: and the Goals are then ſet, perhaps, four or five Miles diſtant, at ſome Gentlemens Houſes, Towns, or the like: and here nothing is ſaid about Matching in Number, or otherwiſe; but the Ball is thrown up, and a bloody Skirmiſh generally enſues. No Buſhes, Briers, Bogs, Mud-pools, Rivers, or any other Impediments, hinder

their Courſe; nor any Friendſhip, Relation, or former Obligation, in the leaſt, abates their Fury. The Party prevailing generally preſents the Ball to the Gentleman who brought them on, as a Trophy; and he, in Return, ſets open his Cellar-doors, where they waſh away the Blood from their Noſes, and apply a Balſam to their Bruiſes.

The Wreſtling in *Cornwall* is, indeed, a much more manly and generous Exerciſe; and that Cloſure, which they call the *Corniſh Hug*, has made them eminent in the Wreſtling Rings all over *England*; as the *Norfolk* and *Suffolk* Men are, for their Dexterity at the Hand and Foot, and throwing up the Heels of their Adverſary, without taking hold of him.

Paſſing the River *Tamar*, about two Miles from *Launceſton*, we enter the great County of *Devon*; and as it is in the moſt wild and barren Part of it, and where formerly Tin Mines were found, tho' now they are either quite exhauſted, or not to be worked without more Charge than Profit, ſo we muſt expect it a little to reſemble its neighbour County.

The River *Tamar* here abounds with freſh Salmon, which are ſo exceeding fat and good, that they are eſteemed in both Counties above the Fiſh of the ſame Kind found in other Places; and the Quantity is ſo great, as ſupplies the Country in abundance. This is occaſioned by the Mouth of the River being ſo very large, and the Water ſo deep for two Leagues before it opens into *Plymouth Sound*, that the Fiſh have a ſecure Retreat in the ſalt Water for their Harbour and Shelter; and from thence they ſhoot up into the freſh Water, in vaſt Numbers, to caſt their Spawn.

We ride but a few Miles in *Devonſhire*, before we find a different Face, in ſeveral reſpects: As, 1. More People than in *Cornwall*: 2. Larger Towns: 3. The People

People all buſy, and in full Employ upon their Manufactures.

At the uppermoſt and extreme Part of the County North-weſt, runs a large Promontory into the Sea beyond all the Land on either Side, whether of *Devonſhire*, or of *Cornwall:* this they would fain have called *Hercules*'s *Promontory*; but the honeſt Sailors, and, after them, the plain Country-people, call it *Hartland Point*, or *Hearty Point*, from the Town of *Hartland*, which ſtands juſt within the Shore, and is ſituated on the utmoſt Edge of the County of *Devon*. It is a Market-town of good Reſort, the People coming conſtantly to it out of *Cornwall*, the Fiſher-boats of *Barnſtable*, *Bidiford*, and the other Towns on the Coaſts, lying often under the *Lee*, as they call it, of theſe Rocks, for Shelter from the South-weſt or South-eaſt Winds; at which time the Seamen go on Shore here, and ſupply themſelves with Proviſions: nor is the Town unconcerned in that gainful Fiſhing-trade, which is carried on for the Herrings on this Coaſt.

From this Point or Promontory, the Land falling away for ſome Miles, makes a Gulf or Bay, which reaching to the Head-land, or Point of *Barnſtable* Haven, is called, from thence, *Barnſtable* Bay. Into this Bay, or at the Weſt-end of it, the Rivers *Taw* and *Towridge* empty themſelves at one Mouth: and it is very particular, that as two Rivers join in one Chanel, ſo here are two great trading Towns in one Port; a thing, which, as it is not uſual, ſo I cannot ſay is an Advantage to either of them: for it naturally follows, that they rival one another, and leſſen both; whereas, had they been joined together in one Town, or were it poſſible to join them, they would make the moſt conſiderable Town, or City rather, in all this Part of *England*.

Theſe are the Towns of *Barnſtable* and *Bidiford*, the firſt the moſt antient, and returning Members to Parliament; the laſt the moſt flouriſhing. The Harbour or River is, in its Entrance, the ſame to both; and when they part, the *Towridge* turns to the Right, or South-weſt, and the *Taw* to the South-eaſt; yet they ſeem to be both ſo ſafe, ſo eaſy in the Chanel, ſo equally good with reſpect to Shipping, and ſo equidiſtant from the Sea, that neither Town complains of the Bounty of the Sea to them, or their Situation by Land; and yet, of late Years, the Town of *Bidiford* has flouriſhed, and the Town of *Barnſtable* rather declined.

Bidiford is a clean, well-built Town: the more antient Street, which lies next the River, is very pleaſant, where is the Bridge, a very noble Quay, and the Cuſtom-houſe: it is alſo very well built and populous, and fronts the River for above three Quarters of a Mile: But, beſides this, there is a new ſpacious Street, which runs North and South, or rather North-weſt and South-eaſt, a great Length, broad as the *High-ſtreet* of *Exeter*, well-built, and inhabited by conſiderable and wealthy Merchants, who traffick to moſt Parts of the World.

Here, as is to be ſeen in almoſt all the Market-towns of *Devonſhire*, is a very large and well-finiſhed Meeting-houſe; and, by the Multitude of People which I ſaw come out of it, I thought all the Town had gone thither, and began to inquire for the Church: but I found that alſo large, ſpacious, and filled with People of the beſt Faſhion.

The Trade of this Town, as well as of all the Towns on this Coaſt, being very much in Fiſh, I obſerved that ſeveral Ships were employed to go to *Liverpool*, and up the River *Merſey* to *Warrington*, to fetch the Rock Salt which is found in that County (and of which I ſhall ſay more in my Remarks on thoſe Parts),

Parts), to *Bidiford* and *Barnſtable*, and there diſſolve it into Brine in the Sea-water, joining the Strength of two Bodies in one, and then boil it up again into a new Salt, as the *Dutch* do that of the *French* and *Portugueſe*. This is juſtly called *Salt upon Salt*, and with this they cure their Herrings. As this is a Trade which can be but of few Years ſtanding, becauſe the Rock Salt itſelf has not been diſcovered in *England* many Years; ſo the Difference in curing the Fiſh has been ſuch, that the Demand for them has conſiderably increaſed in foreign Markets.

Here is a very fine Stone Bridge over the River, built in the 14th Century, on 24 *Gothic* Arches, all uniform and regular, and very good Workmanſhip of the kind: theſe Arches are, indeed, beautiful and ſtately; but what a late Author ſays, that one of them is ſo big, that a Ship of 60 Tons may ſail under it, is a Miſtake; no ſuch thing being practicable, either at *London* Bridge, *Rocheſter* Bridge, or even at *York*, where the largeſt Arch in *England* is ſuppoſed to be.

As *Bidiford* has a fine Bridge over the *Towridge*, ſo *Barnſtable* has a very noble one over the *Taw*; and tho' not longer, is counted larger and ſtronger than the other. Theſe two rival Towns are really very conſiderable; both of them have a large Share in the Trade to *Ireland*, in the Herring-fiſhery, and in a Trade to the *Britiſh* Colonies in *America*: if *Bidiford* cures more Fiſh, *Barnſtable* imports more Wine, and other Merchandizes; they are both eſtabliſhed Ports for landing Wool from *Ireland*, of which by itſelf.

If *Bidiford* has a greater Number of Merchants, *Barnſtable* has a greater Commerce within Land, by its great Market for *Iriſh* Wool and Yarn, *&c.* with the Serge-markets of *Tiverton* and *Exeter*, who come up hither to buy: ſo that, in a word, *Barnſtable*, tho' it has loſt Ground to *Bidiford*, yet, take it in all its Trade completely, is full as conſiderable as *Bidiford*;

only, that perhaps it was formerly far ſuperior to it, and the other has riſen up to be its Match.

Barnſtable is a large, well-built Town, ſeated among the Hills. It is more populous than *Bidiford*, but not better built, and ſtands lower; inſomuch that at High-water in Spring-tides it is, in a manner, ſurrounded with Water. The Bridge was built by the generous Benefaction of one *Stamford*, a Citizen and Merchant of *London*, who, it ſeems, was not a Native of the Place; but, by trading here to his Gain, had Kindneſs enough for the Town, to confer that valuable Benefit upon them. It was formerly walled in, and had a Caſtle and a Priory. 'Tis governed by a Mayor and 24 Burgeſſes, whereof 2 are Aldermen. It has alſo an High-Steward, and Recorder.

The Bridge at *Bidiford*, as above, was likewiſe a Gift; but was, as they ſay, done by Collections among the Clergy, by Grant of Indulgences, and the like Church Management: however, both the Towns are infinitely obliged to the Benefactors; and we wiſh no worſe Uſe had ever been made of Superſtition.

Behind *Bidiford*, as we come from *Launceſton*, are ſeveral good Towns; tho' I obſerved, that the Country was wild and barren; as *Taviſtock*, *Torrington*, &c.

Taviſtock returns Members to Parliament. It is ſituated on the *Tavy*, among Springs, and is a large Town, pretty well built. The Abbat of this Place ſat in Parliament, built a Church of 126 Yards long, ſpacious Cloiſters, and a Chapter-houſe, with 36 Stalls, which are all now deſtroy'd.

The Town of *Torrington* is ſituated on the ſame River that *Bidiford* ſtands upon. It has a large ſpacious Church, with a Library in it; and was, for ſome time, the Reſidence of *Margaret*, the Mother of *Henry* VII.

Another Town in this Part of the Country is *Oke-*

hampton,

hampton, vulgarly *Okington*, a good Market and Borough-town, governed by eight principal Burgeſſes, and as many Aſſiſtants. It is a manufacturing Town, as all the Towns this Way now are, and pretty rich; but in the Records of Antiquity it appears to have been much more conſiderable than it is now, having 92 Knights Fees belonging to it. This Town returns two Members to Parliament.

A little above *Barnſtable*, N. E. upon the Coaſt, ſtands a noted Market and Port-town, called *Ilfordcomb*, a Place of good Trade, populous, and rich; which is owing to its having a very good Harbour and Road for Ships, which affords a ſafe Shelter for Veſſels from *Ireland*, when in bad Weather they cannot, without the extremeſt Hazard, run into the Mouth of the *Taw*, which they call *Barnſtable* Water; and this is one Reaſon, that the Merchants at *Barnſtable* do much of their Buſineſs at this Port of *Ilfordcomb*.

The Harbour of this Town was maintain'd formerly at the private Expence of the Anceſtors of Sir *Bourchier Wray*, Bart. Lord of the Manor; and the Quay or Pier of it contains in Length upwards of 850 Feet, and in Height upwards of 40; and the Warp-houſe, Light-houſe, Pilot-boats, and Taw-boats, belonging to the Port, were at firſt founded and built, and conſtantly repaired and maintained, by that worthy Family, without any Aſſiſtance, but ſome ſmall Acknowlegements paid to them as Lords of the Manor. But by Length of Time, and Violence of the Sea, the Quay was very much ſunk and impair'd; the Warp and Warp-houſe, by long Uſage, was gone to Decay; and the Boats for Piloting and Towing were much out of Repair; and the ſmall Duties and Acknowlegements to Sir *Bourchier* ſinking, and being frequently unpaid; to remedy all theſe Evils, an Act paſſed *Anno* 1731. *George* II. for repairing, and keep-

ing in Repair, and inlarging the Piers and Harbour, and for the Support of the Light and Light-houſe, the Warp and Warp-houſe, and the Pilot and Towing-boats, as above-mentioned: ſo that, by this means, the Harbour of *Ilfordcomb* is likely to continue the uſeful and convenient Port it has been for ſo many Years paſt, to the End of Time.

Antiquity tells us long Stories of the *Danes* landing on this Coaſt; of *Hubba*, the *Daniſh* King, being ſlain at *Kennith* Caſtle, between this Place and the Mouth of the *Taw* and *Towridge*; and that the Place was called *Hubbeſtow*, from his being buried there: but I could not hear either of this Caſtle, or Burial-place, or ſo much as the Ruins of them.

The Sea-coaſt in this Country runs a little farther Eaſt by North; but nothing of Moment is to be ſeen there, except Fiſhing-towns, and little Creeks, on which are two Market-towns; *viz.* *Combemerton* and *Porlock*, till we came to *Minehead*.

Leaving the Coaſt in our Journey Southward, we came to the great River *Ex* or *Iſca*, which riſes in the Hills on the North Side of the County, and, like the *Tamar*, begins within four or five Miles of the *Severn* Sea. The Country it riſes in is called *Exmore*: *Camden* ſays it is a filthy, barren Ground; and indeed ſo it is: but as ſoon as the *Ex* comes off from the Moors and hilly Country, and deſcends into the lower Grounds, we found an Alteration; for then we ſaw *Devonſhire* in its other Countenance, cultivated, populous, and fruitful; and continuing ſo till we came to *Tiverton*.

Next to *Exeter*, *Tiverton* is the greateſt manufacturing Town in the County; and, of all the inland Towns, is likewiſe next to it in Wealth, and Number of People: it ſtands on the River *Ex*, and has over it an old Stone Bridge, with another over the little River *Loman*, which immediately after falls into the

the *Ex* juſt below the Town. Antiquity ſays, before thoſe Bridges were built, there were two Fords here, one thro' each River; and that the Town was from thence called *Twyfordton*, that is, *the Town upon the two Fords*; and ſo, by abbreviating the Sounds, *Twyforton*, then *Tiverton*.

This Town has been a remarkable Sufferer by Fire; for in the Year 1598. *April* 3. it was conſum'd on a ſudden; *Aug.* 5. 1612. it was again burnt down; and *July* 5. 1731. another dreadful Fire deſtroyed there 200 of the beſt Houſes.

An Act paſſed on this ſad Occaſion, *Anno* 1732. for the more eaſy rebuilding the Town, and determining Differences on that Account; and it injoins, that the new-built Houſes ſhall be cover'd with Lead, Slate, or Tile, and not Thatch; that perilous Trades ſhall not be exerciſed in public Streets; that no Stacks of Hay, Straw, Corn, *&c.* ſhall be erected at or near the public Parts of the Town; that Fire-Engines may be bought by the Guardians of the Poor; that Houſes may be demoliſhed to ſtop any future Fire; that the Streets and Paſſages of the Town may be inlarged, and particular Houſes pulled down for that Purpoſe; with other uſeful Proviſions.

An Act alſo paſſed *Anno* 1733. for making a Chapel, built by the Subſcription of the Inhabitants of *Tiverton*, a perpetual Cure; and for providing a Maintenance for the Miniſters who ſhall officiate in it: for, as the Preamble to the Act obſerves, the Pariſh-church was not near capacious enough to receive the Inhabitants of the Pariſh. The late Sir *William Wyndham* was a great Encourager and Promoter of this new Chapel, at its firſt Erection.

But the Beauty of *Tiverton* is the Free-ſchool, at the Eaſt Entrance into the Town, a noble Building, but a much nobler Foundation. It was erected by one *Peter Blundel*, a Clothier, and a Lover of Learning;

ing; who uſed the Saying of *William of Wickham* to the King, when he founded the Royal School at *Winchester*; *viz.* "That if he was not himſelf a Scholar, "he would be the Occaſion of making more Scho- "lars than any Scholar in *England*;" to which End he founded this School. He has endow'd it ſo liberally, that, I was told, the Schoolmaſter has, at leaſt, 60 Pounds *per Annum*, beſides a very good Houſe to live in, and the Advantage of Scholars not on the Foundation; and that the Uſher has in Proportion. To this the generous Founder added two Fellowſhips, and two Scholarſhips, for which he gave the Maintenance to *Sydney* College in *Cambridge*; and one Fellowſhip, and two Scholarſhips, to *Baliol* College in *Oxford*: all which are appointed for the Scholars bred up in this School.

As this is the chief Nurſery of almoſt all the young Gentry of theſe Weſtern Parts, the Profit ariſing to the Maſter from Boarders, and the liberal Benefactions of the Parents, added to the Salary before-mention'd, render it a Preferment ſuitable to a Man of the beſt Parts and Learning: and as the Truſtees are Gentlemen of great Honour, it is generally diſpoſed of to the moſt worthy Candidate.

The great Number of Gentlemens Sons ſent hither for their Education, as I have hinted, is no ſmall Advantage to the Town likewiſe; and this, join'd with the briſk Trade carried on here, renders it ſo flouriſhing, that notwithſtanding the dreadful Calamity it underwent by the Fire in 1731. which almoſt totally conſumed it, it is already very elegantly rebuilt; and carries very few other Marks of this Devaſtation, than the Magnificence and Beauty of the new Structures.

As this is a manufacturing Country, we found the People here all fully employ'd, and very few, if any, out of Work. *Tiverton* returns two Members to Parliament.

From

From this Town there is little belonging to *Devonſhire* but what has been ſpoken of, except what lies in the Road to *Taunton*, which we took next, where we meet with the River *Columb*, which riſes alſo in the utmoſt Limits of the County towards *Somerſetſhire*, and gives Name to ſo many Towns on its Banks, that it leaves no room to doubt of its own Name being right: ſuch are *Columb-David*'s, *Ufcolumb*, *Columbſtock*, and *Columbton*; the laſt is a Market-town, and they are all full of Manufacturers depending much on the Maſter-manufacturers of *Tiverton*.

Before we leave *Devonſhire*, it will not be amiſs to take Notice of *Lundy* Iſland, which, tho' 50 Miles from *Devonſhire*, North-weſtward, is much more remote from any other Continent. 'Tis but five Miles long, and two broad; but ſo ſurrounded with inacceſſible Rocks, that there is but one ſmall Entrance into it, where two Men can ſcarce go abreaſt. Tho' this Iſland lies ſo far in the Sea, it has the Advantage of ſeveral Springs of freſh Water.

With the Town of *Tiverton* we leave the County of *Devon*, and, entering *Somerſetſhire*, have really a View of a different Country from *Devonſhire*: for at *Wellington*, the firſt Town we came to in *Somerſetſhire*, tho' partly employed in Manufacturing too, we were immediately ſurrounded with Beggars, to ſuch a Degree, that we had ſome Difficulty to keep them from under our Horſes Heels. I was aſtoniſh'd at ſuch a Sight, in a Country where the People were ſo generally full of Work; for in *Cornwall*, where there are hardly any Manufacturers, and abundance of Poor, we never found any like this.

Wellington is a low dirty Place, and is only remarkable for having been the Place of Reſidence of the Lord Chief Juſtice *Popham*, in the Reigns of Q. *Elizabeth*, and K. *James* I. who was buried here. They talk

talk much of one *Salkeld*, who was converted from Popery by King *James* I. and made Miniſter of this Place. He called himſelf, in Compliment to the King, *The Royal Convert*; who, in return, complimented him with the Title of the *Learned Salkeld*; which, by-the-bye, reflected no bad Compliment on himſelf, for having converted a learned Man.

The County of *Somerſet* joins to the North-eaſt Part of *Devonſhire*, and takes its Name from the *Britiſh* Word *Gladyr Haf*, which ſignifies *Summer-country*; and ſo the *Welſh* call it in their Language to this Day. I touch'd only upon one Point of the County in my laſt, as I went Weſtward. The whole County is worth a more particular Account than can be given within the Space of a Letter.

From *Wellington* we came to *Taunton*, leaving *Blackdown* Hills on our Right, and *Ilminſter* behind them Southward, a Market-town, fam'd for its very good Church, and a ſtately Monument erected in it to *Nicolas Wadham*, and *Dorothy* his Wife, Founders of *Wadham* College, *Oxon.*

Near *Taunton* lies that rich Track of Ground, vulgarly call'd *Taunton-Dean:* this large, wealthy, and very populous Town, takes its Name from the River *Tone*, whereon it is ſituated. One of the chief Manufacturers here told us, that there was at that time ſo good a Trade in the Town, that they had 1100 Looms going for the weaving of Sagathies, Duroys, and ſuch kind of Stuffs; and that not one of thoſe Looms wanted Work. He added, that there was not a Child in the Town, or in the Villages round it, of above five Years old, but, if it was not neglected by its Parents, and untaught, could earn its own Bread. This was what I never met with in any Place in *England*, except at *Colcheſter* in *Eſſex*.

The Election of Members here, is by thoſe whom they call Pot-Walloners, that is to ſay, every Inhabitant,

bitant, whether Houſekeeper or Lodger, who dreſſes his own Victuals: to make out which, ſeveral Inmates or Lodgers will, ſome little time before the Election, bring out their Pots, and make Fires in the Street, and boil their Victuals in the Sight of their Neighbours, that their Votes may not be called in Queſtion.

There are two large Pariſh-churches in this Town, and two or three Meeting-houſes, one of which is ſaid to be the largeſt in the County. The Inhabitants have been noted for Diſſenters, principally; for *Taunton* was always counted a Seminary for ſuch. They ſuffer'd much in the Duke of *Monmouth*'s Rebellion, but paid King *James* home for the Cruelty exerciſed by *Jefferies* among them: for when the Prince of *Orange* arriv'd, the whole Town ran in to him, with ſo univerſal a Joy, that it was thought, if he had wanted it, he might have rais'd a little Army there, and in the adjacent Part of the Country.

There is a kind of College, or Academy, for the Diſſenters, in this Town; and it is, by far, the greateſt Town in all this Part of the Country.

From *Taunton* we went North, to take a View of the Coaſt. *Exmore*, of which mention was made above, where the River *Ex* riſes, lies in the Way, Part of it in this County, and extending to the Sea-ſide: it gives, indeed, but a melancholy View, being a vaſt Track of barren and deſolate Lands; yet on the Coaſt there are ſome very good Sea-ports.

Porlock, mentioned before, on the utmoſt Extent of the County, has but a ſmall Harbour; nor has it any thing of Trade.

But *Minehead*, the ſafeſt Harbour on this Side, is a fine Port: no Ship is ſo big, but it may come in; and no Weather ſo bad, but the Ships are ſafe when they are in: and they told me, that in the great Storm, *Anno* 1703. when the Ships were blown on Shore, wreck'd,

wreck'd, and loſt, in every Harbour of the County, they ſuffer'd little or no Damage in this.

The Trade of this Town lies chiefly with *Ireland*, and this was, for many Years, the chief Port in theſe Parts, where Wool from *Ireland* was allowed to be imported; but that Liberty is ſince inlarged to ſeveral other Ports, by Act of Parliament.

The Town returns two Members to Parliament. It is well-built, full of rich Merchants, and has ſome Trade alſo to *Virginia* and the *Weſt-Indies*. They correſpond much with the Merchants of *Barnſtable* and *Briſtol*, in their foreign Trade. What has greatly contributed to the Improvement of *Minehead*, was an Act paſs'd in the 12th and 13th Year of the late King *William*'s Reign, which was continued by an Act of the 10th of the late Queen *Anne*, For recovering, ſecuring, and keeping in Repair, the Harbour of *Minehead*. And now, ſo lately as in the Seſſion 1737-8. another Act paſs'd, For further continuing the Terms and Powers of the two former Acts, for the bringing to Effect the ſame laudable Purpoſes: in purſuance of which, a new Head has been built, the Beach clear'd, and a great Progreſs made in the Piers, and deſign'd Works.

From hence the Coaſt bears back Weſt to *Watchet*, a ſmall Port of late Years, tho' formerly much more conſiderable; for it had given Place to *Minehead*, tho' now it is in a much better Condition than it us'd to be in: and this it owes to two Acts of Parliament; one paſs'd in the 6th Year of the late Queen *Anne*, For repairing of its Quay and Harbour; and the other in the 10th. But when the Works deſign'd were near completed, it was found, that the Quay was built much too low, and not extended to a ſufficient Length to preſerve the Town, and the Ships and Veſſels riding in the Harbour, from the Violence of the Sea: whereupon,

upon, another Act paſs'd, in the 7th of King *George* I. For continuing the Duties laid by the former Acts, and remedying the Inconveniencies before-mention'd.

It ſeems to me, that the Town of *Minehead* roſe out of the Decay of the Towns of *Porlock* and *Watchet*.

On this Coaſt are vaſt Quantities of Rock, or rather Pebbles, which the Sea, at low Water, leaves uncovered; from whence the neighbouring Inhabitants fetch them on Shore to a higher Ground, and burn them into Lime, for dreſſing their Land: but it is more eſpecially uſeful in Building; for that no Cement whatſoever is more laſting for *Jets d'Eaux*, Heads, Piers, and other Maſonry, that is to lie under Water; in which Poſition it runs up to a Stone as hard as Marble, and is ſcarce to be beaten abroad. The Cliffs are ſtor'd with Alabaſter, which, by the Waſh of the Sea, falls down, and is convey'd from hence to *Briſtol*, and other Places on this Shore, in great Quantity. Neither ſhould it be omitted, that the Inhabitants burn great Quantities of Sea-weed, to ſupply the Glaſs-makers at *Briſtol*.

Walking on the Beach near *Watchet*, I diſcover'd among the large Gravel great Numbers of Stones, fluted in Imitation of the Shells of Fiſhes, of all Kinds. Many of the flat kind are double, and curiouſly tallied one in another, which may, by a violent Stroke, be ſeparated. How to account for the vaſt Variety to be found here of this Sport of Nature, I know not: ſome I have ſeen as broad as a Pewter-diſh, and again others no bigger than a Pepper-corn; but in all of them the Flutings are regular; ſome like the Eſcalop, in Rays from a Centre; others like the Periwinkle, in ſpiral Lines: in theſe, and all other Forms, they lie here in great Plenty.

Quantock is an high Down in the Neighbourhood; from whence, beſides the two little Iſlands call'd the

Steep-

Steep-Holms, and the *Flat-Holms*, and an extenſive View of the Chanel, I had a fair and diſtinct Proſpect of the *Welſh* Coaſt, for many Leagues in Length.

From hence the winding Shore brings us to *Bridgwater*: this is an antient and very conſiderable Town and Port. It ſtands at the Mouth of the River *Parrat*, or *Perrot*, which comes from the South, after having receiv'd the River *Tone* from the Weſt, which is made navigable up to within a few Miles of *Taunton* by a very fine new Chanel, cut at the Expence of the People of *Taunton*, and which, by the Navigation of it, is infinitely advantageous to that Town, and well worth all their Expence; firſt, by bringing up Coals, which are brought from *Swanzy* in *Wales* by Sea to *Bridgwater*, and thence by Barges up this River to *Taunton*; next, for bringing all heavy Goods and Merchandizes from *Briſtol*; ſuch as Iron, Lead, Oil, Wine, Hemp, Flax, Pitch, Tar, Grocery, Dyeſtuffs, and the like.

This Town of *Bridgwater* returns Members to Parliament. It is a populous, trading Town, well-built, and as well inhabited; having many Families of good Faſhion dwelling in it, beſides Merchants. The famous Admiral *Blake*, who under the Commonwealth ſo much exalted the Glory of the *Engliſh* maritim Force, was a Native of this Town.

This Town was regularly fortified in the late Civil Wars, and ſuſtained more than one Siege. The Situation of it renders it eaſy to be fortified, the River and Haven taking one chief Part of the Circumference. Over the River they have a very good Bridge of Stone; and the Tide riſes here, at High-water, near ſix Fathoms, and ſometimes flows in with ſuch Impetuoſity, that it comes two Fathoms deep at a time; and when it does ſo, unawares, it often occaſions great Damage to Ships, driving them foul of one another, and frequently overſets them. This ſudden Rage of

the

the Tide is call'd the *Boar*, and is frequent in all the Rivers of this Chanel, eſpecially in the *Severn*: 'tis alſo known in the North, particularly in the *Trent*, and the *Ouſe*, at their Entrance into the *Humber*, at *Briſtol*, and in ſeveral other Places.

There is in *Bridgwater*, beſides a very large Church, a fine Meeting-houſe, built ſince the Toleration, in which 'tis remarkable, that they have an advanced Seat for the Mayor and Aldermen, when any of the Magiſtrates ſhall be of their Communion, as ſometimes has happened. Here alſo is a College, or private Academy, for the Diſſenters to breed up their preaching Youth.

From *Bridgwater* is a Road to *Briſtol*, which they call the *Lower-way*; the *Upper-way*, which is the more frequented Road, being over *Mendip* Hills. This Lower-way is not always paſſable, being ſubject to Floods, and daugerous Inundations. All this Part of the Country, *viz.* between *Bridgwater* and the Sea, and on Northward upon the Coaſt, lies low, and is wholly employed in feeding of Black Cattle, which they bring out of the Weſt Part of *Devon*, and the neighbouring Borders of *Cornwall*, where the fineſt are bred: for as to thoſe few bred in theſe low Lands, they are very heavy, ſluggiſh, and unſhapely; and the Beef ſoft and ſpongy, ſuch as they ſeldom or never drive to *London* Markets. Indeed, they breed a great many Colts; but then they too muſt be tranſplanted very young, into a dry, healthy Soil; for 'tis very difficult to find an Horſe of their own Breed fit for any thing but a Drudge. The Moors, or Marſh-grounds, which are alſo employ'd in the ſame way, extend themſelves up the Rivers *Perrot* and *Ivil*, into the Heart of the Country; of which in its Place.

This low Part, between *Bridgwater* and *Briſtol*, ſuffered exceedingly in that terrible Inundation of the Sea, which was occaſioned by the great Storm, *Anno* 1703.

1703. and the Country-people have ſet up Marks upon their Houſes and Trees, with this Note upon them, *Thus high the Waters came in the great Storm*; *Thus far the great Tide flowed up in the laſt violent Tempeſt*; and the like.

In one Place they ſhewed us where a Ship was driven up upon the Shore, ſeveral hundred Yards from the ordinary High-water Mark, and left upon dry Land.

As the low Part is thus employed in grazing and feeding Cattle, ſo all the reſt of this large extended Country is employed in the Woolen Manufacture, and in the beſt and moſt profitable Part of it; *viz.*

In Taunton,

The Serges, Druggets, *&c.* and ſeveral other Kinds of Stuffs.

In Wells, Shepton, Glaſtenbury, *&c.*

Knitting of Stockens, principally for the *Spaniſh* Trade.

In Briſtol, *and many Towns on the* Somerſetſhire *Side*,

Druggets, Cantaloons, and other Stuffs.

In Froom, Philips-Norton, *and all the Country bordering upon* Wiltſhire,

Fine *Spaniſh* Medley Cloths, eſpecially on that Part of the County from *Wincanton*, and *Meer*, to *Warminſter*, *Bruton*, *Caſtlecary*, *Temple-comb*, down to *Gillingham* and *Shaftsbury*, in *Dorſetſhire*.

Theſe fine *Spaniſh* Medley-cloths are the mix'd colour'd Cloths, which all the Perſons of Faſhion in *England* wear. There are vaſt Quantities of theſe exported to all Parts of *Europe*; and it is ſo very conſiderable a Trade, and of ſo vaſt an Advantage to *England*, in maintaining and ſupporting ſo many poor Families, and making ſo many rich ones, that it is almoſt

moſt impoſſible to give a juſt Deſcription of it: the above Sketch, however, may ſerve as an Introduction to it. But I ſhall add a little more concerning this County; and upon my entering into the North-weſt and Weſt Parts of *Wiltſhire*, where the Centre of this Prodigy of a Trade is, I ſhall ſum it all up together, and ſhew you the Extent of Land which it ſpreads itſelf upon; and they give you ſome Idea, as well of the vaſt Numbers of People who are ſuſtained, as of thoſe who are enrich'd by it.

But I muſt firſt go back a little while into *Somerſetſhire:* The Northern Part of the County I did not viſit in this Journey, which, as I hinted before, is only a Return from my long Travel to the *Land's-end*; in omitting this Part, I, of courſe, leave the two Cities of *Briſtol* and *Bath*, and that high Part of the County call'd *Mendip-hill*, to my next Weſtern Journey, which will include all the Counties due Weſt from *London:* for theſe now ſpoken of, tho' ordinarily call'd the Weſt-country, are rather North-weſt than Weſt.

In that Part of the Country which lies Southward of *Taunton* and *Bridgwater*, is *Langport*, a well-frequented Market-town, on the River *Parr*, which is navigable for Barges to *Briſtol*, and occaſions a good Trade here. Eels are exceeding plentiful and cheap here. Near this Place General *Fairfax* beat up the diſcontented *Goring*'s Quarters, and intirely defeated him.

South Petherton is a Market-town on the ſame River, famous, of old, for the Palace of King *Ina*, but now of no other Note than an annual Fair, which laſts five Days, in *June*.

From hence you come to *Yeovil*, which I have already mentioned in a former Letter.

Ivelcheſter is a Borough-town, and, as its Ruins ſhew, was formerly very large, and encompaſs'd with

a double Wall, and had four Churches. It has now a good Bridge over the *Ivel*, and ſends two Members to Parliament.

Somerton is a good Market-town, whence, ſome ſay, the Country takes its Name. It was antiently very noted, and had a ſtrong Caſtle, in which *John* King of *France* was Priſoner. Here is a Fair which holds from *Palm-Sunday* to the Middle of *June*.

Milbourn lies on the Edge of *Dorſetſhire*: it is very antient, and returns two Members to Parliament.

Camalet is a noted Place, ſituated on the higheſt Ground in this County, on the Edge of *Dorſetſhire*: its vulgar Name is *Cadbury-caſtle*, from the Village of *North-Cadbury*, wherein it ſtands. Hereabouts riſe the Rivers of *Somerſetſhire*, which run into the *Severn* Sea Weſtward; and that in *Dorſet*, which goes Eaſtward, thro' *Sturminſter*, into the Southern Ocean. It is a noble Fortification of the *Romans*. The Proſpect is woody, and very pleaſant; here-and-there lofty and ſteep Hillocks. *Roman* Coins, in great Plenty, have been found here, and in all the Country round. The Entrance is guarded with ſix or ſeven Ditches. On the North-ſide, in the fourth Ditch, is a never-failing Spring, call'd *King* Arthur's *Well*; over it they have dug up ſquare Stones, Door-jambs with Hinges, and ſay there are ſubterraneous Vaults thereabout. The Church and Tower of *Cadbury* is ſmall, but neatly built of Stone.

At *Wincaunton*, an Urn was lately found full of *Roman* Money: Half a Peck of the ſame Coin was diſcovered in incloſing Ground, toward *Beacon-aſh*, a little above *Sutton*; as alſo *Patera's*, a Knife, and other Antiquities, now in Lord *Winchelſea*'s Cuſtody: in particular, at *Long-leat*, in Lord *Weymouth*'s Library, a Piece of Lead weighing 50 Pounds, one Foot nine Inches long, two Inches thick, three and an half broad, found in Lord *Fitzharding*'s Grounds

near

near *Bruton* in *Somerſetſhire*, was diſcovered by digging an Hole to ſet a Gate-poſt in, with a legible Inſcription.

The Road from hence to *Glaſtenbury* is over Rocks, and Heads of Rivers; but that is alleviated by the many natural Curioſities ſuch Places afford.

Kyneton Village, for half a Mile together, is naturally pav'd with one ſmooth broad Rock, the whole Length of the Road; ſo that it looks like Ice.

Croſſing the *Foſſe* Road at *Lyteford*, you enter a flat mooriſh Country, full of artificial Cuts and Drains. The Aſcent to the *Torr*, which overhangs the Town of *Glaſtenbury*, is very difficult. Upon a narrow Creſt of the *Torr*, which is much the higheſt, the Abbat built a Church to St. *Michael*, of good ſquare Stone. The Tower is left, tho' ruinous, and is an excellent Sea-mark. It probably coſt more to raiſe the Stone to this Height, than to erect the Building. Half way up is a Spring: it is certainly higher than any Ground within ten Miles of the Place. In the times of Superſtition this great Monaſtery held the firſt Place for Reputation of Sanctity.

The Inhabitants will have it, that King *Arthur* was buried here; and, as a Proof thereof, that his Coffin had been found in this Place; and alſo, that *Joſeph* of *Arimathea* had been there, and that when he had fix'd his Staff in the Ground, which was on *Chriſtmas-day*, it immediately took Root, budded, put forth White-thorn-leaves, and the next Day was in full Bloſſom, white as a Sheet; and that the Plant is preſerved, and blows every *Chriſtmas-day*, as at firſt, to this very time.

I believe the Miracle amounts to no more than this; *viz.* That a kind of White-thorn grows hereabout, which, in a mild Winter, puts forth ſome Bloſſoms about *Chriſtmas*: and I doubt not, but ſome of the

ſame kind may be found at other Places, if any Obſervations were made of it. But this Place is remarkable for many other marvelous Stories, recorded by the Monks, who formerly poſſeſſed it.

As to the Burial of King *Arthur*, Mr. *Camden* makes no doubt of it; and gives us, from *Giraldus Cambrenſis*; an Account how King *Henry* II. cauſed Search to be made for his Tomb; and before the Workmen had dug ſeven Feet deep, they came to a great Stone, having a Croſs of Lead on the Inſide of it, and the ſubſequent Letters or Inſcription upon it, and in the following rude Character; which the ſaid *Giraldus Cambrenſis*, Mr. *Camden* ſays, was an Eye-witneſs of, as well as of a Coffin of hollow'd Oak, which they found by digging nine Feet deeper than the Inſcription; wherein were depoſited the Bones of that great Prince. The Inſcription is as follows:



But to leave theſe more diſputable Points for Matters of greater Certainty: it is not doubted but King *Ina* built the Church of *Glaſtenbury*, as one of the moſt antient, ſo the moſt wealthy and magnificent, loaded with Revenues by the *Saxon*, and perhaps the *Britiſh* Monarchs. The Abbat lived in little leſs State than the Royal Donors, his Revenue amounting to 40,000*l.*

 annually.

annually. He could from the *Torr* ſee a vaſt Track of this rich Land in his own Poſſeſſion, and ſeven Parks, well ſtor'd with Deer, belonging to the Monaſtery. 'Tis wall'd round, and imbattled like a Town, a Mile in Compaſs.

When I was laſt at *Glaſtenbury*, there were magnificent Ruins; but, within a few Years, a Preſbyterian Tenant had made more barbarous Havock there, than had been ſince the Diſſolution: for every Week a Pillar, a Buttreſs, a Window-jamb, or an Angle of fine hewn Stone, was ſold to the beſt Bidder. And they were actually ſtripping *St. Joſeph*'s Chapel for that Purpoſe, and the ſquar'd Stones were laid up by Lots in the Abbat's Kitchen. The reſt goes to paving Yards, and Stalls for Cattle, or to the Highway. So much Dread, indeed, have the People here of Founders Curſes, that they are afraid to make uſe of the Materials for Dwelling-houſes; and are full of Stories of ſad Accidents and Judgments, that have fallen upon ſuch as have; but venture it for the Highways, for a Town-houſe, and even for Barns and Stables: ſo that, as one obſerves, where few are ſo hardy as to apply them to their particular or perſonal Uſe, a public Building ſhall be erected, where all come in for their Snack.

The Abbat's Lodging was a fine Stone Building, but could not content the juſt-mention'd Tenant, who pull'd it down, and out of it built a new Houſe, abſurdly ſetting up the Arms and Cognizances of the great *Saxon* Kings and Princes, who were Founders, and of the Abbats, over his own Doors and Windows. Nothing is left intire, but the Kitchen, a judicious Piece of Architecture; but Tradition ſays, that this is but a modern Building: for the Story goes, That *Whiting*, the laſt Abbat, being dealt with by *Henry* VIII. and his Cormorants, for a Surrender, and bravely refuſing to join in the Sacrilege, that Prince proceeded

to

to Menaces, and told him, he would "burn his "Kitchen about his Ears." To which he return'd Anſwer, that "he would build ſuch an one as all the "Timber in the Foreſt ſhould not burn." And accordingly, as 'tis ſaid, built this in Defiance, which is all of firm Stone, Walls and Roof, having nothing combuſtible in it. But what neither Flattery nor Menaces could effect, Tyranny and Murder brought about: for the Abbat was hang'd on *St. Michael*'s Tower, juſt now mention'd, on the Top of the high Hill call'd *The Torr*; thereby accompliſhing a Prophecy (as the Townſmen call it, but rather occaſioning a Saying ſince ſpread abroad), that *A* Whiting *ſhould ſwim over* Glaſtenbury Torr.

The Church was large and magnificent; the Walls of the Choir are ſtanding, 25 Fathoms long, and 12 broad: there is one Jamb, at the Eaſt-end of the high Altar, left.

Hereabout were buried King *Edgar*, and many of the *Saxon* Monarchs, whoſe noble Aſhes ought to have protected the Whole.

Two Pillars of the great Middle Tower are left, next the Choir. On the North-ſide is *St. Mary*'s Chapel, as they told me; the Roof beat down by Violence, and a mean wooden one in its Place, thatch'd with Stubble, to make it ſerve as a Stable: the Manger lies upon the Altar and Nich, where they put the Holy-water; *St. Edgar*'s Chapel is oppoſite to it, but there is not much left of it beſides the Foundations. The preſent Work is 44 Paces long, and 36 wide without: the Roof is chiefly wanting. Two little Turrets are at the Corners of the Weſt-end, and two more at the Interval of four Windows from thence; which ſeem to indicate the Space of Ground the firſt Chapel was built on: the reſt, between it and the Church, was a kind of Antechapel. Underneath was a Vault, now full of Water, the Floor of the

Chapel being beaten down into it: it was wrought with great Stones.

Here was a capacious Receptacle of the Dead. They have taken up many leaden Coffins, and melted them into Ciſterns.

The Roof of the Chapel was finely arch'd with Ribwork of Stone: the Sides of the Walls are full of ſmall Pillars of *Suſſex* Marble, as likewiſe the whole Church; which was a mean Way of Ornamenting in thoſe Times: they are moſtly beaten down. Between them the Walls are painted with Pictures of Saints, as ſtill eaſily ſeen. All the Walls are overgrown with Ivy, which is the only thing here in a flouriſhing Condition; every thing elſe preſenting a moſt melancholy, tho' venerable Aſpect. On the South-ſide the Cloiſters was the great Hall.

The Townſmen bought the Stones of the Vaults underneath to build a ſorry Market-houſe; not diſcerning the Benefit accruing to the Town from the great Concourſe of Strangers purpoſely to ſee this Abby, which is now its greateſt Trade, as formerly its only Support: for 'tis in a moſt miſerable decaying Condition, as wholly cut off from the large Revenues ſpent among them.

There are many other Foundations of the Buildings left in the great Area; but, in the preſent Hands, will ſoon be rooted up, and the very Footſteps of them effaced, which ſo many Ages had been erecting.

The Abbat's Hall, I have been told, was curiouſly wainſcoted with Oak, and painted with Coats of Arms in every Panel. The Morter of theſe Buildings is very good, and great Rocks of the Roof of the Church lie upon the Ground; chiefly conſiſting of Rubble-ſtone untouch'd by the fanatical Deſtroyers, who chiefly work on the hewn Stone of the Outſide, till a whole Wall falls, when undermin'd a little.

Throughout the Town are the tatter'd Remains of Doors, Windows, Baſes, Capitals of Pillars, &c. brought from the Abbey, and put into every poor Cottage.

In the Town are two Churches; the upper an handſome Fabric, with a fine Tower of good Deſign, adorn'd with Figures in Niches. The *George* Inn is an old Stone Building, call'd *The Abbat's Inn*, where chiefly the Pilgrims were lodged, who came ſtrolling hither, and idling their time away for Sanctity. A Coat of Arms, of the Kings of *England*, ſupported by a Lion and a Bull, is over the Gate, with many Croſſes. There was a Bed of large Timber, with imboſs'd gilt Panels, which ſeem'd to have been the Abbat's.

Four Miles from *Glaſtenbury* lies the little City of *Wells*, where is one of the neateſt Cathedrals in *England*; particularly, the Weſt Front of it, which is a complete Draught of Imagery, as well as very antient. It was built (on the Site of the old one founded by King *Ina*) by *Robert de Lewes*, and *Joceline de Welles*.

The Cloſe, or Part of the City where the Biſhop's Palace is, is very properly call'd ſo; for it is wall'd in, and lock'd up like a little Fortification, and has a Mote round it. The dignified Clergy live in the Inſide of it, and the Prebendaries and Canons have very agreeable Dwellings. Here are no leſs than 27 Prebendaries, and 19 Canons, beſides a Dean, a Chancellor, a Precentor, and three Archdeacons; a Number which very few Cathedrals in *England* have beſides. Biſhop *Thomas de Bekyngton*, who ſat here in 1443. built the beautiful Palace-gate, and 12 ſtately Stone Houſes. Biſhop *Knight*, and Dean *Woolman*, made the fine arch'd Fabric in the Market-place, now call'd the Croſs.

The County is the Dioceſe, which was inſtituted in 909. by King *Edward* the elder, and contains 388

Pariſhes; and the Archdeaconries are of *Wells*, *Bath*, and *Taunton*.

The City lies juſt at the Foot of the Mountains call'd *Mendip-hills*, and is built on a ſtony Foundation. Its Manufacture is chiefly of Stockens, as has been ſaid: 'tis well-built, and populous. It was, at the Requeſt of Biſhop *Welles* before-mention'd, made a free Borough by King *Henry* II. which was confirm'd by King *John*, who granted it other Privileges, which Queen *Elizabeth* ratified, and appointed that it ſhould be govern'd by a Mayor, Recorder, 7 Aldermen, and 16 Common-councilmen. The Market-days are *Wedneſday* and *Friday*. The City ſends 2 Members to Parliament.

Near this City, and juſt under the Hills, is the famous *Wokey-Hole*, the chief Curioſity of which is frequently found in all ſuch ſubterraneous Caverns; that the Water, dropping from the Roof of the Vault, petrefies, and hangs in long Pieces like Icicles, as if it would, in time, turn into a Column to ſupport the Arch.

Not far from hence is *Sedgmore*, a watry ſplaſhy Place, and famous for the Defeat of the Duke of *Monmouth*.

In the low Country, on the other Side *Mendip* Hills, lies *Chedder*, a Village pleaſantly ſituated under the very Ridge of the Mountains: before the Village is a large Green, or Common, on which all the Cows belonging to the Town feed; the Ground is exceeding rich, and, as the Inhabitants are Cowkeepers, they take care to maintain the Goodneſs of the Soil, by agreeing to lay on large Quantities of Dung, for manuring and enriching the Land.

Several Perſons frequently here mix their Milk together, which often weighs an hundred Weight, ſometimes more; and is ſo excellent, that the Cheeſe is often ſold from 6*d*. to 8*d*. *per* Pound, when the

Cheſhire

Cheſhire Cheeſe is ſold but from Two-pence to Two-pence Halfpeny.

Here is a deep frightful Chaſm in the Mountain, in the Hollow of which the Road goes toward *Briſtol*; and out of the ſame Hollow ſprings a little Stream, which is ſo rapid, that it is ſaid to drive 12 Mills, within a Quarter of a Mile of the Spring; but it muſt be ſuppoſed to fetch ſome winding Reaches in the Way, otherwiſe there would not be Room for 12 Mills to ſtand, and have a ſufficient Head of Water to each, within ſo ſmall a Space of Ground. The Water of this Spring grows quickly into a River, which runs down into the Marſhes, and joins another little River call'd *Axe*, about *Axbridge*, and thence into the *Briſtol* Chanel, or *Severn* Sea.

I muſt now turn Eaſt, and South-eaſt; for I reſolv'd not to go up the Hills of *Mendip* at all, this Journey, leaving that Part to another Tour; when I ſhall give an Account of theſe Mountains, as alſo of the Cities of *Bath* and *Briſtol*, to which they are very near, in one Letter.

I come now to that Part of the County which joins to *Wiltſhire*, which I reſerv'd, in particular, to this Place, in order to give ſome Account of the Broad-cloth Manufacture, which I ſeveral times mention'd before, and which is carried on here, to ſuch a Degree, as to deſerve a Place in all the Deſcriptions or Hiſtories which ſhall be given of this Country.

As the Eaſt and South Parts of *Wiltſhire* are all hilly, ſpreading themſelves far and wide in Plains, and graſſy Downs, for breeding and feeding vaſt Flocks of Sheep; and as the Weſt and North Parts of *Somerſetſhire* are, on the contrary, low and marſhy, or mooriſh, for feeding and breeding of Black Cattle and Horſes, or for Lead Mines, &c. ſo all the South-weſt Part of *Wiltſhire*, and the Eaſt Part of *Somerſetſhire*, are low and flat, being a rich, incloſed Country, full

of Rivers and Towns, and infinitely populous; inſomuch that ſome of the Market-towns are equal to Cities in Bigneſs, and ſuperior to many of them in Numbers of People.

This low flat Country contains Part of the three Counties of *Somerſet*, *Wilts*, and *Glouceſter*; and that the Extent of it may be the eaſier underſtood by thoſe who know any thing of the Situation of the Country, it reaches from *Cirenceſter* in the North, to *Sherburn*, on the Edge of *Dorſetſhire*, South; and from the *Devizes* Eaſt, to *Briſtol* Weſt; which may take in about 50 Miles in Length, where longeſt; and 20 in Breadth, where narroweſt.

In this Extent of Country, we have the following Market-towns, which are principally employ'd in the Clothing Trade, that is to ſay, in that Part of it which I am now ſpeaking of; namely, fine Medley, or mix'd Cloths, ſuch as are uſually worn in *England* by the better Sort of People, and alſo exported in great Quantities to *Holland*, *Hamburgh*, *Sweden*, *Denmark*, *Spain*, *Italy*, &c. The principal Clothing Towns, in this Part of the Country, are theſe;

In Somerſetſhire,

Frome, *Pentford*, *Philip's-Norton*, *Bruton*, *Shepton-Mallet*, *Caſtle-Carey*, and *Wincaunton*.

In Wiltſhire,

Malmſbury, *Caſtlecomb*, *Chippenham*, *Caln*, *Devizes*, *Bradford*, *Trubridge*, *Weſtbury*, *Warminſter*, and *Mere*.

In Dorſetſhire,

Gillingham, *Shaftſbury*, *Bemiſter*, *Bere*, *Sturminſter*, and *Shireborn*.

In Glouceſterſhire,

Cirenceſter, *Tetbury*, *Marſhfield*, *Minchinghampton*, and *Fairford*.

Theſe

Theſe Towns, as they ſtand thin, and at conſiderable Diſtances from one another (for, except the two Towns of *Bradford* and *Trubridge*, the others ſtand at an unuſual Diſtance), are interſperſed with a very great Number of Villages, Hamlets, and ſcatter'd Houſes; in which, generally ſpeaking, the ſpinning Work of all this Manufacture is perform'd by the poor People; the Maſter Clothiers, who generally live in the greater Towns, ſending out the Wool weekly to their Houſes, by their Servants and Horſes; and, at the ſame time, bringing back the Yarn that they have ſpun and finiſh'd, which then is fitted for the Loom.

The increaſing and flouriſhing Circumſtances of this Trade are happily viſible, by the great Concourſe of People to, and Increaſe of Buildings and Inhabitants in, theſe principal Clothing Towns, where this Trade is carried on, and in the Wealth of the Clothiers. The Town of *Frome*, or, as it is written in our Maps, *Frome-Selwood*, is a Specimen of this, which is ſo prodigiouſly increaſed within theſe laſt 30 or 40 Years, that they have built a new Church, and many new Streets of Houſes; and theſe Houſes are ſo full of Inhabitants, that *Frome* is now reckon'd to have more Inhabitants in it, than the City of *Bath*, and, ſome ſay, than *Saliſbury*: and if their Trade continues to increaſe, in like manner, for a few Years more, it is very likely to become one of the greateſt and wealthieſt inland Towns in *England*.

Its Trade is wholly Clothing, and the Cloths they make are, generally ſpeaking, all convey'd to *London*, where *Blackwell-hall* is their Market. And if we may believe common Fame, there are above 10,000 People in *Frome* now, more than liv'd in it 30 Years ago; and yet it was a conſiderable Town then.

Since

Since the above was written, the Trade of this Town, as well as of the other Clothing Towns, has received ſome Check, by reaſon of the Wars which have diſturb'd, and continue to diſturb, the Repoſe of Europe; *and the Towns, of conſequence, are leſs flouriſhing: altho' it is hop'd, that theſe Commotions will not laſt long; and that then they will recover, with the Trade, their former State. And yet it muſt be obſerv'd, that the Improvements which the* French *have, of late, made in the Clothing Trade, threaten laſting Diſcouragement to this ſtaple Branch of* Britiſh *Manufacture: for that buſy Nation have already beaten us out of a large Part of the* Levant *or* Turky *Trade, by the light thin Cloths which they make; and which, tho' not ſo good as ours, yet ſuit well the Inhabitants of thoſe hot Climates, and can be afforded cheaper. Endeavours, I am told, are making in* Yorkſhire, *and other Parts, to recover this Branch of Trade, by outvying the* French *in the ſame ſort of Manufacture.*

Here are alſo ſeveral large Meeting-houſes, as well as Churches, as there are, generally, in all the manufacturing trading Towns in *England*, eſpecially in the Weſtern Counties.

The *Devizes*, a Borough-town, is a large and important Town, and full of wealthy Clothiers; but it has lately run pretty much into the Drugget-making Trade; a Buſineſs, which has made ſome Invaſion upon that of the Broad-cloth, great Quantities of Druggets being worn in, as well as exported from *England*, inſtead of Broad-cloth: but this is much the ſame, as to the Trade, ſtill; for ſince it is all a Woolen Manufacture, and the Druggets may properly

perly be call'd Cloth, tho' narrow, and of a different Make; ſo the Makers are all call'd Clothiers. This Town ſends two Members to Parliament.

The River *Avon*, a noble and large freſh River, branching itſelf into many Parts, and receiving almoſt all the Rivers on that Side of the Hills, waters this whole fruitful Vale: and the Water of this River ſeems particularly qualified for dying the beſt Colours, and for fulling and dreſſing the Cloth; ſo that the Clothiers generally plant themſelves upon this River, but eſpecially the Dyers; as at *Trubridge* and *Bradford*, which are the two moſt eminent Clothing Towns in that Part of the Vale for the making fine *Spaniſh* Cloths, and for the niceſt Mixtures.

From theſe Towns, South to *Weſtbury* and *Warminſter*, the ſame Trade continues, and the fineſt Medley *Spaniſh* Cloths in the whole World are made in this Part. They told me at *Bradford*, that it was no extraordinary Thing to have Clothiers thereabout worth from 10,000 to 40,000 *l.* a Man; and many of the Gentry in thoſe Counties have been originally raiſed from this truly noble Manufacture.

If I may ſpeak here from the Authority of the antient Inhabitants of the Place, who have been curious Obſervers upon this Subject, the Country which I have now deſcribed, as principally employed in, and maintained by, this Prodigy of a Trade, contains 2,330,000 Acres of Land, and has in it 788 Pariſhes, and 374,000 People. It is true, that this is all Gueſs-work; but I muſt confeſs myſelf very willing to believe, that the Reckoning is far ſhort of the Account; for this Part is exceeding large and populous.

It may be worth Inquiry, how the Manufacturers in ſo vaſt a Conſumption of the Wool, as ſuch a Trade muſt take up, can be ſupplied with Wool for their Trade: and indeed it would be ſomething ſtrange, if the Anſwer were not at hand.

1. We may reaſonably conclude, that this Manufacture was at firſt ſeated in this County, or, as we may ſay, originally planted itſelf here, becauſe of the infinite Numbers of Sheep, which were always upon the Downs and Plains of *Dorſet*, *Wilts*, and *Hampſhire*, all adjoining. This, no doubt, induced the firſt Planters of the Clothing Manufacture to make choice of this delightful Vale in the Neighbourhood of thoſe Plains, which afforded ſuch immenſe Funds of Wool for the carrying on their Works. Thus the Manufacture of white Cloth was planted in *Stroud-water* in *Glouceſterſhire*, for the ſake of the excellent Water there for the dying Scarlets, and all Colours that are dyed in Grain; which are better done there, than in any other Place of *England*, ſome Towns near *London* excepted. Hence therefore we firſt obſerve, they are ſupplied yearly with the Fleeces of two or three Millions of Sheep.

2. But as the Number of Sheep fed on theſe Downs is leſſened, rather than increaſed, becauſe of ſo many thouſand Acres of the Carpet Ground being, of late Years, converted into Tillage, and ſowed with * Wheat, and, at the ſame time, the Manufacture prodigiouſly increaſing, the Manufacturers applied to other Parts for a Supply; and hence began the Influx of North-country Wool from the Counties of *Northampton*, *Leiceſter*, and *Lincoln*, the Centre and Markets of which Trade are about *Tetbury* and *Cirenceſter*, where ſeveral hundred Packs are ſold every Week, to ſupply this prodigious Conſumption.

3. From *London* they have great Quantities of Wool, which is generally called *Kentiſh* Wool, in the Fleece, which is brought up from thence by the Farmers, ſince the late ſevere Acts againſt their ſelling it

* This Alteration has made *Warminſter*, a Market-town on the Edge of *Somerſetſhire*, the greateſt Market for Wheat in *England*, where none of it is bought to ſend to *London*.

within

within a certain Number of Miles of the Sea; alſo Fell-wool for the Combers, bought of the Woolſtaplers in *Barnaby-ſtreet*, and ſent back by the Carriers which bring up the Cloths to Market.

4. They have alſo, ſometimes, large Quantities of *Iriſh* Wool by the way of *Briſtol*, or of *Minehead* in *Somerſetſhire*; but this is uncertain, and only on extraordinary Occaſions. I omit the *Spaniſh* Wool, as being an Article by itſelf.

Thus, as thoſe who ſee the almoſt-countleſs Numbers of Sheep on the Downs and Plains, and the great Quantities of Wool brought to the Markets of *Tetbury*, and other Towns, as well as what are ſent down from *London* into this ſingle Vale, would wonder how it was poſſible ſo much Wool could be conſumed, manufactured, and wrought up; ſo, on the other hand, thoſe that ſee what Numbers of People are employ'd, and what vaſt Quantities of Goods are made, in this Part of *England*, would wonder how the Nation ſhould be able to ſupply them with Wool.

And yet, notwithſtanding the whole Country is thus buſy'd in the Broad-cloth Manufacture, I muſt not omit to mention, that here is a very great Application to another Branch or two of Trade; *viz.* the ſupplying the City of *London* with Proviſions: tho' it is true, that the general Employment of the People in all this County is in the Woollen Manufacture; yet, as the Spinning is generally the Work of the Women and Children, and the Land is here exceeding rich and fertile; ſo it cannot be ſuppoſed, but that here are Farmers in great Numbers, whoſe Buſineſs it is to cultivate the Land, and ſupply the reſt of the Inhabitants with Proviſions: and this they do ſo well, that, notwithſtanding the County is exceeding populous, yet Proviſions of all Sorts are cheap, the Quantity very great, and a conſiderable Overplus ſent every Day to *London*.

All

1. We may reaſonably conclude, that this Manufacture was at firſt ſeated in this County, or, as we may ſay, originally planted itſelf here, becauſe of the infinite Numbers of Sheep, which were always upon the Downs and Plains of *Dorſet*, *Wilts*, and *Hampſhire*, all adjoining. This, no doubt, induced the firſt Planters of the Clothing Manufacture to make choice of this delightful Vale in the Neighbourhood of thoſe Plains, which afforded ſuch immenſe Funds of Wool for the carrying on their Works. Thus the Manufacture of white Cloth was planted in *Stroud-water* in *Glouceſterſhire*, for the ſake of the excellent Water there for the dying Scarlets, and all Colours that are dyed in Grain; which are better done there, than in any other Place of *England*, ſome Towns near *London* excepted. Hence therefore we firſt obſerve, they are ſupplied yearly with the Fleeces of two or three Millions of Sheep.

2. But as the Number of Sheep fed on theſe Downs is leſſened, rather than increaſed, becauſe of ſo many thouſand Acres of the Carpet Ground being, of late Years, converted into Tillage, and ſowed with * Wheat, and, at the ſame time, the Manufacture prodigiouſly increaſing, the Manufacturers applied to other Parts for a Supply; and hence began the Influx of North-country Wool from the Counties of *Northampton*, *Leiceſter*, and *Lincoln*, the Centre and Markets of which Trade are about *Tetbury* and *Cirenceſter*, where ſeveral hundred Packs are ſold every Week, to ſupply this prodigious Conſumption.

3. From *London* they have great Quantities of Wool, which is generally called *Kentiſh* Wool, in the Fleece, which is brought up from thence by the Farmers, ſince the late ſevere Acts againſt their ſelling it

* This Alteration has made *Warminſter*, a Market-town on the Edge of *Somerſetſhire*, the greateſt Market for Wheat in *England*, where none of it is bought to ſend to *London*.

within

within a certain Number of Miles of the Sea; alſo Fell-wool for the Combers, bought of the Woolſtaplers in *Barnaby-ſtreet*, and ſent back by the Carriers which bring up the Cloths to Market.

4. They have alſo, ſometimes, large Quantities of *Iriſh* Wool by the way of *Briſtol*, or of *Minehead* in *Somerſetſhire*; but this is uncertain, and only on extraordinary Occaſions. I omit the *Spaniſh* Wool, as being an Article by itſelf.

Thus, as thoſe who ſee the almoſt-countleſs Numbers of Sheep on the Downs and Plains, and the great Quantities of Wool brought to the Markets of *Tetbury*, and other Towns, as well as what are ſent down from *London* into this ſingle Vale, would wonder how it was poſſible ſo much Wool could be conſumed, manufactured, and wrought up; ſo, on the other hand, thoſe that ſee what Numbers of People are employ'd, and what vaſt Quantities of Goods are made, in this Part of *England*, would wonder how the Nation ſhould be able to ſupply them with Wool.

And yet, notwithſtanding the whole Country is thus buſy'd in the Broad-cloth Manufacture, I muſt not omit to mention, that here is a very great Application to another Branch or two of Trade; *viz.* the ſupplying the City of *London* with Proviſions: tho' it is true, that the general Employment of the People in all this County is in the Woollen Manufacture; yet, as the Spinning is generally the Work of the Women and Children, and the Land is here exceeding rich and fertile; ſo it cannot be ſuppoſed, but that here are Farmers in great Numbers, whoſe Buſineſs it is to cultivate the Land, and ſupply the reſt of the Inhabitants with Proviſions: and this they do ſo well, that, notwithſtanding the County is exceeding populous, yet Proviſions of all Sorts are cheap, the Quantity very great, and a conſiderable Overplus ſent every Day to *London*.

All

All the lower Part of this County, and alſo of *Glouceſterſhire* adjoining, is full of large feeding Farms, which we call Dairies; and the Cheeſe they make is excellent, and is eaten newer than that from *Cheſhire*. Of this a vaſt Quantity is every Week ſent up to *London*, where, tho' it is called *Glouceſterſhire* Cheeſe, yet the greateſt Part of it comes from *Wiltſhire*; the *Glouceſterſhire* Cheeſe being more generally carried to *Briſtol* and *Bath*, where a very great Quantity is conſum'd, as well by the Inhabitants of theſe two populous Cities, as in Exportation to our *Weſt-India* Colonies, and other Places; whereas this *Wiltſhire* Cheeſe is carried to the River of *Thames*, which runs thro' Part of the County, by Land-carriage, and ſo by Barges to *London*.

Again, in the Spring of the Year, they make a vaſt Quantity of that we call Green or New Cheeſe, which is a thin and very ſoft Cheeſe, reſembling Cream Cheeſes, but ſomewhat thicker: theſe are ſo univerſally lik'd in *London*, that all the low rich Lands of this County are hardly enough to ſupply the Market: but then this holds for little more than the two firſt Summer Months of the Year.

Beſides this, the Farmers in *Wiltſhire*, and the Part of *Glouceſterſhire* adjoining, ſend a very great Quantity of Bacon up to *London*, which is eſteemed the beſt Bacon in *England*, *Hampſhire* only excepted. This Bacon is raiſed here, by their great Dairies, as the Hogs are fed with the vaſt Quantities of Whey, and ſkimmed Milk, which the Farmers muſt otherwiſe have thrown away.

But this is not all: for as the North Part of *Wiltſhire*, as well the Downs as the Vales, border upon the River *Thames*, and in ſome Places come up even to the Banks of it; ſo moſt of that Part of the County being arable Land, they ſow a very great Quantity of Barley, which is carried to the Markets at *Abingdon*, *Faringdon*,

Faringdon, and ſuch Places; where it is made into Malt, and carried to *London*. This employs all the Hill-country from above *Malmſbury* to *Marlborough*, and on the Side of the Vale of *Whitehorſe*, as 'tis called, which is in *Berkſhire*, and the Hills adjoining; a Track of fertile Ground, which furniſhes a prodigious Quantity of Barley.

Thus *Wiltſhire* helps to ſupply *London* with Cheeſe, Bacon, and Malt, three very conſiderable Articles, beſides that vaſt Manufacture of fine *Spaniſh* Cloths, of which I have ſaid ſo much: and I may, without Partiality, ſay, that it is thereby rendered one of the moſt important Counties in *England* to the public Wealth of the Kingdom. The bare Product is in itſelf prodigiouſly great; the Downs are an inexhauſted Storehouſe of Wool, and of Corn; and the Valley, or low Part of it, is the like for Cheeſe and Bacon.

One Thing here is worth while to mention, for the Obſervation of thoſe Counties in *England*, where they are not yet arrived to that Perfection in Huſbandry, as in this County; and I have purpoſely reſerved it to this Place: and that is, the Downs or Plains, which tho' generally call'd *Saliſbury Plain*, yet extend themſelves into the Counties of *Southampton*, *Wilts*, and *Dorſet*; were formerly wholly taken up with Sheep, as being thought incapable of producing Grain; but now are made to yield moſt plentiful Crops, by folding their Sheep upon the plough'd Lands, removing the Fold every Night to a freſh Place, till the whole Fallow has been folded on. This alone has made theſe Lands, which in themſelves are poor, and, in ſome Places, ſo ſhallow as that the Earth is not ſix Inches deep over the ſolid Chalk, able to bear as good Wheat, as any of the richer Lands in the Vales, tho' not altogether in ſuch great Quantities: and were it not for this Improvement, the Pro-

duct

duct would hardly compenſate the Ploughman's Labour; for many of theſe Lands lie up ſuch high Hills, ſo remote from the Farmers Houſes, which are always in the Valleys, that it would be very difficult to carry up their Dung to manure them.

If this Way of folding Sheep upon the fallow and ploughed Lands were practiſed in ſome other Parts of *Britain*, and eſpecially in *Scotland*, it would effectually improve the waſte Lands, which now are uſeleſs and uncultivated, and turn both Sheep and Lands to a better Account than was ever yet known among them. In *Wiltſhire* it appears to be ſo, very ſignificantly: for if a Farmer has a thouſand Sheep, and no Fallows to fold them on, his Neighbours will give him ten Shillings a Night for every Thouſand. The ploughing ſo much Land on the Downs may be attended with bad Conſequences hereafter, tho', at the time when theſe Lands were broken up, it might produce Profit: for as the Surface of the Ground is very ſhallow, and that generally great Beds of Flints lie immediately under the Turf; ſo theſe are ploughed up, and, being mixed with the ſmall Quantity of Earth, the Ground appears to be nothing but a Quarry of Flints. And as theſe Grounds are ſoon exhauſted, by Crops of Corn; whenever any Part of them are laid down again, it is ſeveral Years before they have any Graſs upon them, and never become ſo good a Sward, as before. What encouraged the Inhabitants to break up ſo much of their Downs, was the great Price which Corn bore, for ſome Years; but, ſince that has fallen, the Crops have barely paid their Culture.

In many Parts of theſe Downs, which have been ploughed, there is an uncommon Quantity of Thiſtles, which the Farmers never deſtroy, from a Notion which they have generally entertained, that their Sheep were once preſerved, in an hard Winter, by feeding on them.

But

But as I have not mentioned the Clothing Towns other than as they contribute to that Trade; I ſhall now proceed to ſay ſomething of the Towns themſelves, except thoſe in *Glouceſterſhire*, of which I ſhall ſpeak in my next Letter, as I fall down Weſtward.

Shipton-Mallet, *Caſtle-Carey*, *Wincaunton*, and *Bruton*, lie to the Southward of *Wells*, and have nothing remarkable in them, except the laſt, which lies on the River *Brews*. It has a fair Church, a good Free-ſchool, a ſtately Alms-houſe, and the Ruins of a Priory; and, beſide the Clothing Trade, is famous for Stockens.

Frome and *Philips-Norton* lie Eaſt of *Somerſetſhire*, upon the Borders of *Wilts*; the firſt is near the Foreſt of *Selwood*, and I have already mentioned its prodigious Increaſe, of late Years; the laſt is a very good Market-town, and has two annual Fairs, one reputed, for a One-day Fair, as great as any in *England*.

Bensford is a ſmall Market-town, and lies Northweſt toward *Briſtol*.

Malmſbury, a Borough-town, is a very antient one, and, 'tis ſaid, was built by a *Britiſh* Prince, call'd *Caer Bladdon*. It was formerly defended by Walls, and a large ſtrong Caſtle, which was raſed afterward, to inlarge the Abbey, which was very famous, and the greateſt in *Wiltſhire*: the Abbat ſat in Parliament. Here King *Athelſtane* was buried, and they ſtill ſhew his Tomb. Vaſt Piles of Buildings were pulled down at the Diſſolution, but the Church of the Abbey was ſaved, a great Part of which ſtill remains, and is uſed as the Pariſh-church. It is a Corporation governed by a *Juſtice*, who is an annual Magiſtrate, and called *The Alderman*. It has a good Market weekly. The Town is neat, and lies on the River *Avon*. It is alſo famous for the Birth-place of *William* of *Malmſbury*, the Hiſtorian; and of that great Scholar, Philoſopher,

ſopher, and Mathematician, *Hobbes*, &c. It alſo ſends two Members to Parliament.

Near this Town, Southward, on the ſame River, lies the Village of *Dantſey*, which, tho' but an obſcure Place, has given Title of Honour to many eminent Perſons, and, among the reſt, to *Henry Danvers*, created Baron of this Place by King *James* I. tho' by K. *Charles* I. made Earl of *Danby*. He had diſtinguiſhed himſelf in Queen *Elizabeth*'s *Iriſh* Wars, was as good as great, and died with Glory: but his Brother and Heir, having ſat, ungratefully, a Judge on that very King who made his Brother Earl, was, at the Reſtoration, attainted of High Treaſon, and this his Manor of *Dantſey* given to *James* then Duke of *York*; who ſettled it, in Dowry, on his ſecond Conſort. On his Abdication, it became a ſecond time forfeited, and King *William* conferred it on *Charles* Lord *Mordaunt*, late Earl of *Peterborough* and *Monmouth*, in whoſe Family it ſtill remains. But as there are ſome other Things more than ordinarily particular, relating to this Manor, I ſhall inlarge a little upon it.

The whole Pariſh of *Dantſey* conſiſts of this Manor only; and not a Foot of Ground in it belongs to any other Perſon: it is altogether Paſture, and, indeed, very rich. The Inhabitants, who are all Tenants of the Manor, make moſt excellent Cheeſe, not at all inferior to that of *Chedder*, which is the only Commodity in the Place; for the late Lord would not permit the Grounds to be ploughed up: and, I believe, there is not an Acre, in the Pariſh, of arable Land, tho' the Tenants have offer'd a conſiderable Advance of Rent, for Liberty to break up the Ground; which, indeed, ſeems to want it, and would be much better'd by the Plough: nor would his Lordſhip, for ſome Years before his Death, renew a Life upon it, either by Leaſe or Copyhold, except as many of the laſt, as

would

would keep up the Homage, and the Rights of the Manor: and the Reaſon of this was, not only to get a clear Rack-rent Eſtate in it, but to prevent the Cheats and Impoſitions which the Copyhold Tenants of the Manor put upon their Lord. For as every Widow has her Life in her Huſband's Copyhold after his Death, if ſhe continues ſole and continent; 'tis a very common thing there for an old Man, on his Deathbed, to marry a young Woman, who privately contracts to give Part of the Profits of the Copyhold, or ſome Conſideration for it, to the Huſband's Relations; and not ſeldom ſelects, for a Bedfellow for herſelf, one of her favourite Men-ſervants.

The Abuſe which accrued from granting Leaſes on Lives is this; That whereas a Perſon takes a Leaſe for three Lives, *viz.* his own, his Wife's, and his Son *John*'s; to defraud the Lord of the Manor, he names all his Sons *John*: ſo that, as long as any of the Sons live, *John* in the Leaſe never dies.

By theſe Frauds, the Earl, who was none of the beſt Oeconomiſts, and liv'd remote from this Place, ſuffer'd conſiderably, tho' he could not find out how; but frequently complain'd, That his Leſſees, and his Copyhold-Widows, were very long-liv'd: and, in an humorous Way, us'd to recommend his Manor of *Dantſey* to all ſuch as were apprehenſive of dying.

As all in the Pariſh were his Tenants, and had an Intereſt in the Fraud, they combined againſt him, ſo that he could get no Intelligence of it: and tho' his Lordſhip enjoyed the Manor ever ſince the Revolution; yet, by reaſon of its being then full eſtated, that is, all let out upon Lives then actually ſubſiſting, and continued by the above-mentioned Frauds, his Lordſhip received no great Benefit out of it till ſome few Years before his Death; when he came to a Reſolution not to renew, tho', when all the Lives drop

in, this Manor will, at a Rack-rent, amount to, at leaſt, 3000 *l.* a Year.

There is a large old Manſion-houſe here, lying juſt on the River, with Gardens formed after the Manner of thoſe at *Parſons-green*; but it is not a kindly Place for ripening Fruit, and the Grounds lie very low and ſplaſhy, being all of a ſtiff Clay, and yet very good Paſture: here is alſo a fine Park, well timber'd, but without Deer. His Lordſhip had once a Deſign to improve this Manſion-houſe and Eſtate, and reſided here in 1705. when he was call'd to Court, and ſent to command the Queen's Forces in *Spain*, where his Conduct, and great Services to his Country, are too well known, to need mentioning here.

Tho' this Place is often overflowed with Water, yet there is none good, either for Brewing or Waſhing; or any Spring of ſweet Water. Here is a Spring of a chalybeat Kind, which would turn to good Account, were it not in ſuch a diſtant, and an almoſt inacceſſible Part of the Country, occaſioned by bad Roads, which were a great Protection to the Inhabitants in the late Civil Wars, who were never viſited by either Party, but enjoyed an eaſy and uninterrupted Repoſe; whilſt their Neighbours, on all Sides, were involved in the Calamities of that unnatural War.

Here is likewiſe a good neat Church, with one of the beſt-built, high, ſquare Towers, I ever ſaw; raiſed at the Expence of one of the Lords of *Dantſey*, probably the afore-mentioned *Henry*, who lies buried here under a very large magnificent Tomb. Here likewiſe is interred Lieutenant-General *Lewis Mordaunt*, a Brother of the late Earl, a Gentleman noted for his great Wit, Humour, and polite Converſation; as, indeed, all his Brothers were, as well as his Lordſhip.

Caſtlecomb is a Village of ſmall Account.

Chippenham

Chippenham is a corporate good Market-town, likewiſe on the River *Avon*, over which it has a Bridge of 16 Arches, famous for the Reſidence and Reſort of many of the *Weſt-Saxon* Kings, particularly *Alfred*. Here is a very magnificent Church; and near this Place, formerly, was a famous Foreſt. This Place ſends two Members to Parliament.

Bradford is a Market-town, and has a Bridge over the *Avon*. 'Tis well-built of Stone, and lies on the Side of an Hill.

Trubridge is an antient Market-town, and had formerly a Caſtle of ſeven Towers, but long ſince deſtroyed. The Court of the Duchy of *Lancaſter*, for this County, is annually held here.

Weſtbury is a little Borough Market-town, but was formerly of great Note; and even now returns two Members to Parliament. Some Quantities of *Roman* Coins have been found here.

Warminſter is noted, as I have ſaid, for the prodigious Quantity of Corn, which is ſold in it every Market-day. Upon the Downs, near this Town, are two antient Camps, ſuppoſed to be *Daniſh*.

It is obſervable, that theſe five laſt Towns belong'd antiently to the Family of the *Hungerfords*, which, in King *Edward* IV.'s Reign, came by Marriage to the Lord *Haſtings*; who, being executed in *Richard* III.'s time, this vaſt Eſtate was given by that King to *Howard*, Duke of *Norfolk*, firſt Earl-Marſhal of that Family in *England*.

Near *Warminſter* is the famous Foreſt of *Selwood*, called, by the antient *Baitons*, *Coedmaur*, i. e. *Great-wood*. It is 15 Miles in Length, and very thick of Wood.

Mere, which in the old *Saxon* ſignifies *Boundary*, as this Place ſeems to be on the Borders of *Wilts*, *Somerſet*, and *Dorſet*, is but a Village, and yet gives Name to the Hundred where it ſtands. It has neither

Fair nor Market in it; but it had, antiently, a Caſtle. Not far from this Place is an old *Daniſh* Camp call'd *Whiteſhole-hill.* Sir *Francis Cotton*, who flouriſhed in the Reign of King *James*, and afterwards of *Charles* I. was born here.

A little South-eaſt of *Mere* lies *Hindon*, a ſmall Borough and Market-town, which ſends two Members to Parliament; and North-eaſt of it ſtands *Heightſbury*, an inconſiderable Town, but noted formerly for an Hoſpital.

Lavington is alſo a little more North, a very indifferent Market-town.

The *Devizes* is excellently ſituated, about two Miles from the Bottom of the Hills, which keep off the Eaſtern Winds, and in a rich Soil. Under the Hill, at *Runway*, is an excellent Spring, which the Inhabitants have not yet found Means to convey thither, tho' it runs but a little way off the Town, where they want Water. It is a very large old Town, conſiſting chiefly of two long parallel Streets, the Houſes moſtly of Timber, but of a very good Model. The Inhabitants value themſelves for being Tenants to the King, and for one of the beſt weekly Markets in *England*. The Caſtle was originally *Roman*, judiciouſly ſeated upon a natural Fortification; but in After-times made, in a manner, impregnable by *Roger*, a Biſhop of *Saliſbury*, tho' now it ſuffers daily by Peoples taking away the Materials: here are two Churches. The Choir of *St. Mary's* is of a very old Model, as are the Steeple, Choir, and both Wings of *St. John's*, to which Additions have been made, and new wide Windows with pointed Arches, in the room of the antient, narrow, ſemicircular ones.

Juſt out of Town is a pretty Plain call'd *the Green*, with another handſome Church and Steeple, Suburbs to the old Town. Here *William Cadby*, a Gardener, dug up his Collection of Gods, which he carried about

for

for a Shew. They were found in a Garden, in a Cavity, incloſed with *Roman* Brick. The *Venus* is of an excellent Deſign; and the *Veſtal Virgin*, as they call it, a Fragment of *Corinthian* Braſs, and of very curious Workmanſhip. *Vulcan* is as lame as if made at a Forge: he had alſo ſeveral Coins found thereabouts, and a Braſs *Roman* Key, which my Lord *Winchelſea* bought. *Roman* Antiquities are diſcover'd here every Day. The ſame Nobleman has a Braſs *Probus*; on the Reverſe *Victoria Germ.* with a Trophy. A great Number of ſuch Reliques is to be met with all round the Country.

Calne is a little Town, ſituate on a ſtony Hill, and very antient; and is ſuppoſed to have been one of the Seats of the *Weſt-Saxon* Kings. It is a Borough-town, has a neat Church, and a good weekly Market. After a great Rain, in *November* 1725. the Waters roſe ſo very high here, on a ſudden, that they overflowed the Town, damaged a great Quantity of Goods, drowned two Men in the Street, and carried off a Caſk of Oil of 100 Gallons, which could not be found for ſeveral Days after. A great Parcel of *Roman* Coins were dug up here formerly. Here was, likewiſe, antiently an Hoſpital of *Black Canons*.

I am now come into the Road to *Marlborough*: On the Downs, about two or three Miles from the Town, are abundance of looſe Stones, lying ſcattered about the Plain, ſome whereof are very large, and appear to be of the ſame kind with thoſe of *Stonehenge*, and ſome larger. They are called, by the Country-people, the *Grey Wethers*; and it muſt be confeſſed, that they look not unlike Sheep ſtraggling upon the Downs, on a tranſient and diſtant View, as Travelers paſs. Theſe *Grey Wethers*, on a more curious Inſpection, are found to be a ſort of white Marble, and lie upon the Surface of the Ground in infinite Numbers, and of all Dimenſions. They are looſe, de-

tached from any Rock, and, as Dr. *Stukely* thinks, lay there ever ſince the Creation; being ſolid Parts thrown out to the Surface of the fluid Globe, when its Rotation was firſt impreſſed.

Marlborough, ſo called from its Hills of Chalk, which antiently was called *Marl*. It is the *Cunetia* (from *Kenet*) of the *Romans*; but from the Coming of the *Saxons* to the Conqueſt, there is no Mention of it. It is governed by a Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgeſſes; is well-built, and ſends two Members to Parliament. It conſiſts chiefly of one broad and ſtrait Street. To the South are ſome Relicks of a Priory; the Gate-houſe is ſtill remaining. On the North, the Chapel of another Religious Houſe remains, now turned into a Dwelling-houſe. The Seat of my Lord *Hertford* was the Site of the *Roman Caſtrum*; for there they find Foundations, and *Roman* Coins: and towards the River, without the Garden-walls, one Angle of it very manifeſtly remains; and the Rampart and Ditch intire. The Road going over the Bridge cuts it off from the preſent Caſtle. The Ditch is ſtill 20 Feet wide, in ſome Parts. The Mount, ſo much noted, was the Keep of the Caſtle; it is now converted into a pretty ſpiral Walk, on the Top of which is an octagonal Summer-houſe, from whence you have a pleaſant View over the Town and County. The Town has, at preſent, a pretty good Shop-keeping Trade, but not much of the manufacturing Part. The River *Kennet*, ſome Years ago made navigable by Act of Parliament, riſes juſt by this Town; from whence running to *Hungerford* and *Newbury*, it becomes a large Stream, and, paſſing by *Reading*, runs into the *Thames* near that Town. This River is famous for Crayfiſh, which they help Travellers to at *Newbury*; but they ſeldom want for Price.

At *Abury*, near *Marlborough* Downs, in the Way to *Bath*, are to be ſeen the ſtupendous Remains of a

Druids

Druids Temple; being a Collection of monſtrous Stones, of the like Nature with thoſe of *Stonehenge*, and brought together from the Downs for the ſame religious Purpoſes, as Dr. *Stukely* makes no Queſtion.

On the Hills on this Side the *Devizes* is *Roundway Down*, where the King's Forces, under Prince *Maurice*, but owing chiefly to the Lord *Wilmot*, beat, and intirely routed, the famous Sir *William Waller*, in the Civil Wars; from whence the Place is called, by ſome, *Run-away Down*, to this Day.

A little nearer towards *Marlborough* is *St. Anne's Hill*, where, notwithſtanding ſeveral high Hills between, and the Diſtance of 22 Miles, or more, is a fair View of *Saliſbury* Steeple, or Spire, which is deem'd the higheſt in *England*.

At *Badmington* in *Wiltſhire* have been found *Nine Caves* all in a Row, but of different Dimenſions, the leaſt of them four Feet wide, ſome nine or ten Feet long, two long Stones being ſet upon the Sides, and the Top covered with broad Stones. Spurs, Pieces of Armour, and the like, have been found in theſe Caves; which gives Ground to believe, that they were Tombs of ſome antient Warriors, *Romans*, *Saxons*, or *Danes*.

In our Way from *Marlborough* to *Newbury*, we mounted a chalky Hill (of which ſort is much of the Soil of *Wilts*), on the Top of which we entered into *Savernack* Foreſt, which belonged to the late Earl of *Aileſbury*; and is almoſt the only privileged Ground of Hunting, of that Denomination, poſſeſſed by a Subject. It is in Circumference about twelve Miles, plentifully ſtocked with Deer of a large Size, and rendered very pleaſant and delightful by the many Walks and Viſtas lately cut and leveled through the ſeveral Coppices and Woods with which it abounds. Eight of theſe Viſtas meet like ſo many Rays of a Star, in a Point near the Middle of the Foreſt, where his Lord-

ſhip prepared and cleared the Ground for erecting an Octagon Tower, whoſe Sides were to be correſpondent to the Viſtas; thro' one of which we have a View of the Seat, at about two Miles Diſtance, call'd *Tottenham*, from a Park of that Name, in which it is ſituate, contiguous to the Foreſt.

It is a ſtately Edifice, newly erected on the ſame Spot of Ground where ſtood an antient Palace, deſtroyed by Fire, of the Marquis of *Hereford*, ſo juſtly celebrated for his ſteady Adherence, and powerful Aſſiſtance, to the Royal Cauſe, during the whole Courſe of the Civil Wars, from whom the Earl of *Aileſbury* was deſcended, by his Mother the Lady *Elizabeth*, Siſter and Niece to the two laſt Dukes of *Somerſet*, of the elder Line.

To give you ſome Idea of the Grandeur and Magnificence of the Structure, it will be ſufficient to obſerve, that it was begun, carried on, and finiſhed, after the Model, and under the Direction, of our modern *Vitruvius*, the Earl of *Burlington*, who, to the Strength and Convenience of the *Engliſh* Architecture, has added the Elegance and Politeneſs of the *Italian* Taſte.

The Houſe has four Towers, and four Fronts, each of them diverſly beautified and adorned; to which are now added four Wings, wherein are Rooms of State, a noble and capacious Room for a Library, containing a judicious and large Collection of ſeveral thouſand Books in all Languages, but eſpecially the modern.

The Beauty and Delightfulneſs of the Buildings are much augmented by the large Canals, the ſpacious and well-planted Walks which ſurround it; one of which, leading to the *London* Road, extends two Miles in Length.

About the ſame Diſtance from hence, on the oppoſite Side, are to be ſeen the Remains of a large Houſe,

Houſe, the Seat of Sir *John Seymour*, Father of the unfortunate Protector, call'd *Wolf-Hall*; of which no more is ſtanding than ſuffices for a Farm-houſe. Here King *Henry* VIII. as, Tradition goes, celebrated his Nuptials with the Lady *Jane Seymour*, and kept his Wedding-dinner, in a very large Barn, hung with Tapeſtry on the Occaſion: for Confirmation of which they ſhew you, in the Walls thereof, ſome Tenter-hooks, with ſmall Pieces of Tapeſtry faſten'd to them: and between this Place and *Tottenham* there is a Walk, with old Trees on each Side, ſtill known by the Name of King *Harry*'s Walk.

From hence, continuing our Courſe Eaſterly, we came to a Borough-town, called *Great Bedwin*, which ſends two Members to Parliament, and which Dr. *Stukely* takes to be the *Leucomagus* of *Ravennas*. It is an old Corporation, and gave Birth to the famous Dr. *T. Willis*, the Ornament of *Engliſh* Phyſicians. *Caſtle Copſe*, Half a Mile from the Town South-eaſt, was probably the *Roman* Caſtle; and *Haviſdike*, a Camp of that People. Some time ſince there was in the Eaſt Window of the Church, the Picture of a Prieſt, with two Crutches, a Cup in his Hand, and a Can ſtanding by him, with an Inſcription in old *Engliſh* Capitals, but in the Language obſolete *French*; which in *Engliſh* is this:

I am Peris *call'd, Vicar of this Church,*
Upon my Crutches leaning juſt in this wiſe;
My Pouch in my Fiſt, and I'll drink without Guile,
My Pot at my Back, ſet after the new Mode.
To my Pot and my Pouch I will have Juſtice done;
For none ſhall drink without putting in as much again.

The Church is large and capacious, in which are ſome antient Monuments; particularly, one of a *Knight-Templar*, call'd *Adam of Scott*, from a Manor

of that Name in the Pariſh, with an Inſcription not legible, and another above-mentioned of Sir *John Seymour*, Father of the Protector; wherein we have an Account of the Names of all his Children, with their ſeveral Intermarriages and Deaths. The Church is very ſtrongly built with Flint, and a Cement near as hard as themſelves, in form of a Croſs; in the Centre of which is erected an high Tower, containing a good Ring of ſix very muſical Bells.

Moving hence towards the North-eaſt a little, we croſſed the much-famed *Wanſdyke*, a Work of prodigious Labour and Expence, and concluded, by moſt Writers, to be a Boundary of one of the Kingdoms of the *Heptarchy*, probably that of the *Weſt-Saxons*, before its Inlargement by incroaching on other Kingdoms. It may be traced from near *Bath*, all over the Downs, to this Place, where it turns its Courſe towards the Southern Coaſts. It is ſuppoſed, by ſome, to derive its Name from *Woden*, one of the *Saxon* Deities.

Soon after we mounted a ſmall Hill, of eaſy Aſcent, on the Summit of which was erected, as Hiſtorians inform us, a fortified Place, the Reſidence of *Ciſſa*, a Viceroy of one of the *South-Saxon* Kings, from whom it derives its Denomination of *Chiſbury*, or *Ciſbury*; who alſo built *Chicheſter*, for the Reſort of his People, as he did this for the Repoſe of himſelf. It ſeems to have been ſtrongly fortified, being ſurrounded with a double Ditch or Mote, of conſiderable Depth and Breadth, and full of Water: ſince which time there has been a Religious Houſe here, the Chapel of which is ſtill remaining, but converted into a Barn.

From hence we returned to the great *London* Road, and ſoon arrived at a Village called *Froxfield*, about ſeven Miles from *Marlborough*; in which is an handſome and well-endowed Alms-houſe, founded by *Sarah* Ducheſs Dowager of *Somerſet*, Relict of *John*,

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the laſt Duke of the elder Branch of the noble Family of *Seymours*, deſcended from the great Duke of *Somerſet*, Protector of the King and Kingdom during the Minority of King *Edward* VI. This Lady bequeathed by her Will above 2000*l.* for the Building and Furniture of this Alms-houſe, and deviſed ſeveral Manors, Meſſuages, and Farms, for the Maintenance of thirty poor Widows not having 20*l.* *per Ann.* to ſubſiſt upon; one Half of which are Widows of Clergymen, and the other of Laymen; giving a Preference to thoſe of the laſt Sort, who live on the Manors ſo deviſed by her. She left in her Will particular Directions for the Form, Dimenſions, and Site of the Structure; and for the Manner of electing, ruling, and providing for the Widows; which her Executors, eſpecially Sir *William Gregory*, who chiefly took upon him the Execution of the Truſt, punctually obſerved.

The Building is neat and ſtrong, in the Form of a Quadrangle, having one Front, and a Court before it, facing the Road. It contains thirty Ground-rooms, and as many Chambers, one of each ſort being allowed to every Widow, for her Apartment, with an Area, or Bed, in a Garden, on the North Part of the Building, incloſed with a Brick-wall.

In the midſt of the Quadrangle is built an handſome and convenient Chapel, furniſhed with a Communion-table, Pulpit, Deſk, Pews, and Books, for the Uſe of the Widows; wherein the Chaplain, whoſe Stipend is 30*l.* *per Ann.* is to read Prayers every Day, and to preach on *Sundays*: and, for his further Encouragement, is to be preſented, on a Vacancy, to the Rectory of *Kemiſh*, in the ſame County, which the Dutcheſs has appropriated to that Uſe. Beſides the yearly Penſion in Money, which is now about eight Guineas, ſhe hath alſo ordered a Cloth Gown, with a certain Quantity of Wood every Winter, to each of the

Widows: and when the Eſtates which ſhe has given to the ſaid Alms-houſe (many of which are now demiſed upon Leaſes for Lives) ſhall fall in, and ſhall produce a clear yearly Income of more than 400*l.* ſhe hath appointed additional Lodgings to be built for the Reception of twenty more Widows, who are to be placed on the ſame Eſtabliſhment, elected, and provided for, in the ſame manner as the thirty former; and then all the Rents and Profits of the ſaid Eſtates (the Salary for the Chaplain and a Steward being firſt deducted) ſhall be diſtributed, in equal Shares and Proportions, between the fifty Widows.

The Produce of all the Eſtates deviſed to this, and another charitable Uſe which I ſhall mention by-and-by, upon the Determination of the Leaſes granted, will, according to the beſt Information I could get, amount to little leſs than 1000*l. per Ann.*

This truly uſeful and excellent Charity, which diſplays the Judgment, as well as charitable Diſpoſition, of the noble Foundreſs, is under the Inſpection and Management of ſeveral worthy Gentlemen and Clergymen of the Neighbourhood, who diſcharge the Truſt repoſed in them with a very laudable Diligence and Integrity; *ſcrupulouſly*, or religiouſly rather, purſuing the Directions of the Will, carefully preventing all Imbezilments, and frequently meeting, at their own Expence, for the Diſpatch of Buſineſs in the Execution of their Truſt: which worthy Example, if imitated by other Truſtees, or Directors of charitable Benefactions (who too often make a Property of their Truſt), would be of public Emolument, and ſingular Benefit to the Poor; by reſcuing charitable Deviſes from the Diſcouragement they now lie under, and rendering unneceſſary the Trouble and Expence of applying for, and ſuing out Commiſſions of Charitable Uſes.

The

The ſame charitable Lady, to make Proviſion for the helpleſs Young, as well as deſtitute Old, has alſo bequeathed a conſiderable yearly Sum for the apprenticing of ten or twelve Children; in which a Preference is to be given to ſuch as were born in her Manors: in the Management of which Truſt, another Set of Truſtees act, with the ſame commendable Uncorruptneſs and Integrity as the former.

We next came to *Hungerford*, a little Market-town, ſituate in a mooriſh Place, remarkable only for being a great Thoroughfare to *Bath* and *Briſtol*; and for Plenty of Trout and Crayfiſh. It is governed by a Conſtable, who is choſen annually, and for the Time being is Lord of the Manor. From this Town the antient Family of the Barons of *Hungerford* took their Name and Title. The firſt of the Family was the firſt Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, in 51 *Edw.* III. They poſſeſſed a vaſt Eſtate this Way, and in all the neighbouring Counties, which was twice forfeited, for their Attachment to the Houſe of *Lancaſter*. This vaſt Eſtate fell, by a Daughter, to the famous Lord *Haſtings*, who was executed in the Reign of *Richard* III. when *Howard*, firſt Duke of *Norfolk*, had a Grant of it from that Prince; who, falling with his Maſter in the Battle of *Boſworth-Field*, King *Henry* VII. reſtored it, with the Honour, to a younger Branch of the *Hungerfords*, who had joined him, and ſhared in the Glory of that Victory. But his Deſcendents ſuffered Death for Treaſon, 31 *Henry* VIII. tho' Queen *Mary* reſtored them again. He was the third of the Family who died for Treaſon: ſuch Viciſſitudes attended this noble Family, and their great Eſtate.

John of *Gaunt* granted to the Town's People the Liberty of the Royal Fiſhing within certain Bounds in

the River, and confirmed it by a Can, that holds about a Quart; which is ſhewn to this Day.

We purſued the great Road, and arrived at *Newbury*, ſituate in a moſt fruitful Plain, and watered by the River *Kennet*, which is made navigable up to the Town, which carries on a very great Trade in Malt, &c. with *London*. It is governed by a Mayor, High-Steward, Aldermen, and Burgeſſes. The Streets are ſpacious, and the Market-place large, where there is great Store of Corn ſold; and an Hall, for the Buſineſs of the Corporation, ſtands in it.

Here is alſo a good Charity-ſchool, for forty Boys; endowed with 65*l.* a Year. This Place is noted for good Trout and Crayfiſh, and all Sorts of Proviſions, at a very reaſonable Expence.

Near this Town was a double Scene of Blood; for here were two obſtinate Battles, fought at different Times, between the King's Army and the Parliament's; King *Charles* being preſent at them both, and both were fought almoſt upon the ſame Spot of Ground; the firſt on the 20th of *September* 1643. and the other on the 27th of *October* 1644. In theſe two Battles it was obſerved, by an experienced Soldier, who ſerved in the King's Army, that the Generals on both Sides ſhewed the moſt exquiſite Skill in the managing, poſting, bringing up, and drawing off their Troops; and the Men fought with equal Bravery. In the firſt of theſe Battles the Succeſs was doubtful, and both Sides claimed the Advantage: in the laſt, the King's Army had apparently the worſt of it; and yet the King in a very few Days, with a great Body of Horſe, brought off his Cannon, which he had, in the Cloſe of the Battle, thrown into *Dunington* Caſtle, and carried them away to *Oxford*, the Head-Quarter of his Army: and this he did in the Sight of the victorious Army, facing them at the ſame time with a Body of 6000 Horſe:

they,

they, on the other hand, not thinking fit to draw out to attack him. That Retreat, in point of Honour, was equal to a Victory; and gave new Courage, as well as Reputation, to the King's Troops.

Part of *Newbury* is alſo known by the Name of *Spinham-lands*, for it aroſe out of the Ruins of an old Town called *Spine*, the Remains of which now join to *Newbury*; in reſpect to which it was called *New Borough*, and, for Shortneſs, *Newbury*. It is noted, among other Things, for two or three good Inns, where Travelers are well accommodated.

This Town of *Newbury* was an antient Clothing Town, tho' now little of that Buſineſs remains to it; but it ſtill retains a manufacturing Genius, and the People are generally employed in making Shalloon; which, tho' it be uſed only for the Lining and Inſides of Mens Cloaths, yet it becomes ſo generally worn, both at Home and Abroad, that it is increaſed to a Manufacture by itſelf, and is more conſiderable than any ſingle Manufacture of Stuffs in the Nation. This employs the Town of *Newbury*, as alſo *Andover*, a Town I have already deſcribed, and many others in different Counties of *England*.

Here began the Reformation, as Dr. *Twiſſe* intimates, by calling his Hearers *the Firſt-fruits of the Goſpel*. This is certain, that in the Reign of *Henry* VIII. here was a Society of about 200 Perſons, who worſhiped God privately, but were at laſt betrayed; when 140 of them abjured, and ſome were burnt: among whom was *Thomas Man*, recorded in *Fox*'s *Acts and Monuments*.

Here lived the famous *Jack of Newbury*, the greateſt Clothier that ever was in *England*; having 100 Looms at work in his own Houſe. He flouriſhed in the Reign of *Henry* VIII. and marched at the Head of 100 of his own Men, all cloathed in one Uniform, and maintained by himſelf, to the Battle

of

of *Flodden-Field*, where he behaved well. He rebuilt Part of *Newbury* Church, and the whole Tower of it. This is one of the two Legatee Towns (as they were called) in the Will of the famous Mr. *Kenrick*; who, being the Son of a Clothier of *Newbury*, and afterwards a Merchant in *London*, left 4000*l.* to *Newbury*, and 7500*l.* to *Reading*, to encourage the Clothing Trade, and to ſet the Poor at Work, beſides other Gifts, of extraordinary Value, to the Poor.

This Gentleman's Will is to be ſeen at large in *Stow*'s *Survey of London*, to which I refer.

What Improvement the Towns of *Newbury* and *Reading* have made of theſe great Sums, I did not inquire into.

Near *Newbury* the late Earl of *Craven* built a very ſtately Pile of Buildings, for his own Dwelling, called *Spine*; but as it was never quite finiſhed, ſo I do not underſtand, that his Lordſhip ever came to live in it: and ſome Years ago it was, by a ſudden Fire, burnt down to the Ground. It was reported, that that Lord built this magnificent Palace (for ſuch it really was) at a time when he had Hopes of marrying *Madame Royale*, as ſhe was then called, *viz.* the Queen of *Bohemia*, Siſter to King *Charles* I. who, then a Widow, lived under the Shadow of the *Engliſh* Court: but, being fruſtrated in that View, the Earl went no farther in his Building. But his preſent Lordſhip has lately rebuilt this Houſe; and, tho' not in ſo grand a manner as the former, it is very commodious.

Weſtward, a little out of our Way, we viſited the Ruins of the Caſtle of *Donnington*, juſt mentioned, which was ſeated on the Brow of an high Hill, waſhed by the little River *Lambourn*; and had been the Seat of Sir *Geoffrey Chaucer*, Father of *Engliſh* Poetry. They ſhew us a Place here, where, in his Days, as well

well as many Years ſince, even down to the Memory of ſome of the Inhabitants now living, flouriſhed a great Oak, called *Chaucer*'s *Oak*, where, they tell you, he uſed to ſit, and compoſe his Poems.

This Caſtle was gariſoned by King *Charles* I. and defended, by its Governor Sir *John Boys*, againſt Major-General *Middleton*, Colonel *Horton*, the Earl of *Mancheſter*, and the Earl of *Eſſex*, of the Parliament's Side.

We went forward to the Town of *Lambourn*, ſo called from the River which runs down and falls into the *Kennet*, near *Thatcham*. There are two Places ſo called, and diſtinguiſhed by the Name of the *Upper* and *Lower*. The *Lower Lambourn* is the largeſt, and has been a Market-town ever ſince the Reign of K. *Henry* III. The River *Lambourn* is remarkable for being very low in Winter, and high in Summer: it goes off about *Michaelmas*; and the ſooner it goes, the more plentiful, ſay the Inhabitants, will that Year be.

At *Newbury* we quitted the high Road, and, being deſirous to ſee ſomething of the North of *Berkſhire*, we ſtruck up to *Iſlip*, which, tho' but an inconſiderable little Town, yet has a good weekly Market for Sheep.

We paſſed North-eaſtward to *Wantage*, the Capital of an Hundred ſo called, a Town of ſome Antiquity, pretty good, and neat. It is noted for the Birth-place of the renowned King *Alfred*, and is watered by the *Och*. On *Sinodun* Hill, in the Time of the *Romans*, was a ſtrong Caſtle. The Plough frequently, to this Day, turns up *Roman* Coins, and other Antiquities.

From *Wantage* we advanced into the fine and fertile Vale of *White-Horſe*, which extends almoſt from *Farringdon* to *Abington*, tho' not in a direct Line. Looking South from the Vale, we ſee a Trench cut

on.

on the Side of an high green Hill, in the Shape of an Horſe, and not ill done. The Trench is about a Yard deep, and fill'd almoſt up with Chalk; ſo that, at a Diſtance, you ſee the exact Shape of a *White-Horſe*, ſo large, as takes up near an Acre of Ground. From this Figure the Hill is called *White-Horſe-Hill*, and the Vale below takes alſo its Name. 'Tis ſaid to be done in order to commemorate a ſignal Victory; and ſome give it to the *Saxons*, whoſe Device was, and ſtill is, a white Horſe.

Weſtward of this Vale, lies *Aſhbury*, betwixt which and *Wantage* is a very large Camp on the Brow of an Hill: 'tis ſingle work'd, and of a quadrangular Form, which ſhews it a *Roman* Work.

The neighbouring Pariſh to this *White-Horſe* have a Cuſtom annually, at *Midſummer*, to go and weed it, in order to keep it in Shape and Colour; and, when they have done their Work, they end the Day in Feaſting and Merriment.

We arrived at *Farringdon*, noted for its pleaſant Situation on an Hill. It has a very good Market weekly, and is very neat and clean. In this Place may be ſeen the Ruins of a Caſtle, built by *Robert* Earl of *Glouceſter*, in King *Stephen*'s Reign: here was alſo a Priory of *Ciſtercian* Monks. The Church is large, and handſome.

From hence we went partly by the Foreſt to *Abingdon*, an handſome well-built Town, where the Aſſizes and Seſſions, and other public Meetings of the County, are generally held. Here is a ſtately Market-houſe, built on high Pillars. It is of moſt curious Aſhler Workmanſhip, and may claim the Pre-eminence of any other in *England*. Over it is a large Hall for the Aſſizes. The Town conſiſts of ſeveral well-paved Streets, which centre in an open and ſpacious Place, where the Corn-market is kept. They make great Quantities of Malt here, and ſend it up by Barges to

London,

London. Here is a good Free-ſchool, and alſo a Charity-ſchool, founded *Anno* 1563. by *John Royſe*. The Corporation is governed by a Mayor, two Bailiffs, and nine Aldermen; and returns one Member only to Parliament.

It is an antient Town, and was famed for Religious Houſes in the Time of the antient *Britons*. It was alſo famous for having ſeveral Synods held there, and for one of the nobleſt Abbeys in the Kingdom; founded, as it is ſaid, by *Heane*, Nephew to *Ciſſa*, Father to King *Ina*. *Henry* I. was educated in this Monaſtery. Here are two Churches, and there was formerly a very fine Croſs, which was deſtroyed in the late Civil Wars.

We next came to *Wallingford*, called, by the antient *Britons*, *Gwal Hen*, i. e. *Old Fort*; a Place of great Figure, as well in their Days, and of the *Romans*, as of the *Saxons* and *Danes*; the laſt of whom deſtroyed it in 1006. but it was ſoon rebuilt, and eſteemed a Borough, in the *Confeſſor*'s time. It has been defended by a ſtrong Caſtle, which has been long ſince demoliſhed. It is ſtill a large well-built Town, has a good Market-place and Town-hall, where the Aſſizes have been ſometimes held, and a Quarter-ſeſſion for the Borough always. It has ſtill two Churches ſtanding, but one was very much damaged in the Civil Wars, when two others here were altogether deſtroyed. It has two weekly Markets, and is governed by a Mayor, Burgeſſes, &c. and returns two Members to Parliament.

Leland records, That *Richard* of *Wallingford*, Abbat of *St. Albans*, was born here. He was a famous Mathematician, and the Inventor of a Clock that ſhewed not only the Courſe of the Sun, Moon, and Fixed Stars, but the Ebbing and the Flowing of the Sea.

The Village of *Aſton* is famous for a Battle fought there *Anno* 871. between the *Danes* and the *Saxons*; in which the latter were routed by *Ethelred*, and his Brother *Alfred*.

Here we croſs'd the *Thames* into *Oxfordſhire*; and leaving *Wathington*, a little inconſiderable Market-town on the Left, we fell down thro' *Netlebed* (likewiſe a Town of little Note) to *Henley upon Thames*, a very antient Town, the Name being derived from the *Britiſh* Word *Hen-lley*, i. e. *Old Place*. It was formerly Part of the Eſtate of the Barons of *Hungerford*, mentioned before. It is now a Corporation of great Account, governed by a Warden, Burgeſſes, and other Officers. It has a conſiderable Corn and Malt-market. The Inhabitants are moſtly Maltſters, Mealmen, and Bargemen; who, by carrying Corn and Timber to *London*, get a gainful Living, and enrich the Neighbourhood. It has a good Free Grammar-ſchool, and alſo a Charity-ſchool, liberally endowed, for teaching, cloathing, and apprenticing, ſeveral poor Children: here is alſo an Alms-houſe, but meanly endowed; for tho' there are not above ſix or ſeven Perſons in it, they have but Sixpence apiece weekly, for their Allowance.

We return'd, over a wooden Bridge, into *Berkſhire*: and as *Thatcham*, *Woolhampton*, and *Theal*, which lie between *Newbury* and *Reading*, are, at preſent, noted only for being great Thoroughfare-towns, and full of Inns, we went no further back than *Reading*.

Reading is ſo call'd from the *Britiſh* Word *Rhedin*, i. e. *Fern*, which formerly grew in great Quantity there. It is a very large and wealthy Town, handſomely built, the Inhabitants rich, and driving a very great Trade: the Town is ſituated on the River *Kennet*, but ſo near the *Thames*, that the largeſt Barges which

which they uſe, may come up to the Town Bridge, where they have Wharfs to load and unload them. Their chief Trade is by this Water-navigation to and from *London*, tho' they have neceſſarily a great Trade into the Country, for the Conſumption of the Goods which they bring by their Barges from *London*; and, particularly, Coals, Salt, Grocery-wares, Tobacco, Oils, and all heavy Goods.

They ſend from hence to *London*, by theſe Barges, very great Quantities of Malt and Meal; and theſe are the two principal Articles of their Loadings. Some of thoſe Barges are ſo large, that, I was told, they bring a thouſand, or twelve hundred Quarters of Malt at a time; which, according to the ordinary Computation of Tonage in the Freight of other Veſſels, is from an hundred to an hundred and twenty Ton, dead Weight.

They alſo ſend very great Quantities of Timber from *Reading*: for *Berkſhire* being a well-wooded County, and the River *Thames* a convenient Conveyance for the Timber, they tranſport the largeſt and faireſt of the Timber to *London*, which is generally bought by the Shipwrights in the River, for the building Merchant Ships. The like Trade of Timber is carried on at *Henley* above-mentioned, and at *Maidenhead*; of which in its Place.

A large Manufacture of Sail-cloth was ſet up in *Reading* by the late Sir *Owen Buckingham*, Lord Mayor of *London*, and many of the poor People were profitably employed in it; but Sir *Owen* dying, and his Son being unhappily kill'd in a Duel a little while after, that Manufacture died alſo.

Here is, however, ſtill a Remnant of the Woolen Manufacture, which was once carried on in it to a very conſiderable Degree; and this Town, as well as *Newbury*, has enjoyed the above-mentioned Legacies of

of Mr. *Kenrick*, to ſet the Poor at Work, and encourage the Clothing Trade; *viz.* 7500*l.*

Mr. *Camden*'s Continuator ſays, there were once 140 Maſter Clothiers in this one Town; but now they are almoſt all gone. During the Civil Wars in *England*, this Town was ſtrongly fortified; and the Remains of the Baſtions, and other Works, are ſtill to be ſeen.

There are three Churches, *St. Mary*'s, *St. Laurence*'s, and *St. Giles*'s, built of Flint and ſquare Stones, in the quincunx Faſhion, with tall Towers of the ſame: here are alſo two large Meeting-houſes, beſides that of the Quakers. *Camden* calls it a little City: it is ſaid to contain about 8000 People, including a little Hamlet at the Bridge over the *Thames*. Archbiſhop *Laud* was born in this Town: his Father was a Clothier. That Prelate left conſiderable Legacies to young People of this Town, of both Sexes.

It was formerly noted for a very famous Abbey, and other religious Foundations. The Parliament of *England* has ſometimes been held in the Abbey. It ſtood in a charming Situation, and large Ruins of it are ſtill viſible, built of Flint: the Walls which remain are about eight Feet thick, tho' the Stone that faced them is gone. What is left is ſo hard cemented, that the Labour, in ſeparating them, would not be anſwered by their Uſe. There are many Remnants of arched Vaults, a good Height above-ground, whereon ſtood, as may be preſumed, the Hall, Lodgings, *&c.* The Abbey Gate-houſe is yet pretty intire.

This was built by King *Henry* I. on an old Abbey, formerly erected by a *Saxon* Lady. That Prince was buried in it, with his Queen; but their Monuments are loſt in the Ruins of the Place, and no-where to be found.

There

There was a famous old Caſtle, demoliſh'd by K. *Henry* II. for being a Place of Refuge for King *Stephen*'s Party.

The Empreſs *Maud*, Daughter of *Henry* I. was alſo buried here; but her Monument is loſt, as well as the others. It bore this Inſcription, as we are aſſured:

Magna ortu, majorque viro, ſed maxima partu,
Hic jacet Henrici *filia, ſponſa, parens.*

Illuſtrious in Deſcent, in Marriage more,
But nobleſt in her Offspring's Royal Pow'r,
Great *Henry*'s Daughter, Parent, Wife, deplore.

The governing Part of this Corporation conſiſts of a Mayor, twelve Aldermen, twelve Burgeſſes, and other Officers. Four Fairs are annually held here on *Candlemas-day*, *May* 1. *St. James's-day*, and *Michaelmas*. *Reading* ſends two Members to Parliament.

The deceaſed Earl of *Cadogan*, who was created Baron of *Reading* by his late Majeſty King *George* I. in 1716. built a fine large Houſe at *Caverſham* near *Reading*, which his Succeſſor, the preſent Lord *Cadogan*, thought fit to reduce to a ſmaller and more convenient Size; as leſs regarding the outward Glare of Magnificence, than Uſe and Convenience.

At *Reading*, in the Year 1688. began the univerſal Alarm that ſpread over the whole Kingdom (almoſt at the ſame time), of the *Iriſh* being coming to cut every body's Throats; which was carried from Town to Town by Peoples Fears and Terrors, aggravated by the Menaces of an *Iriſh* Detachment of Soldiers, who were beat out of *Reading* by the *Dutch*, and prevented taking the Quarters they intended, at *Maidenhead*, *Colebrook*, *Stanes*, &c.

It is impoſſible to expreſs the Conſternation of the People all over *England* on this Occaſion; for the terrible Story ſpread (like the Undulations of the Water in a Pond, when a flat Stone is caſt upon the Surface) all over the Kingdom, as I have ſaid, in one Day; for Fear gave Wings to the News: no Poſt could carry it as it flew from Town to Town; and ſtill every Meſſenger had two Articles with him: 1. Not that ſuch and ſuch Towns *were to be* burnt and plundered by them; but that they *were already* burnt: and, 2. That the *Iriſh* were at their Heels to do the like there. And the Service this Report did to the Cauſe of the Revolution, is hardly to be imagined.

Within leſs than a Furlong of the Town, to the South-weſt, and within 100 Yards of the *Kennet*, on a little riſing Ground, called *Catſgrove-hill*, is a Stratum of Oyſters five or ſix Inches thro' the Hill; many of them large and intire, others decayed and mouldering.

Near *Wadly* is a Tree, which has contracted a petrefying Cruſt, about the Thickneſs of a Shilling, over a Part which has been lopped off with an Ax.

Twyford is about five Miles Eaſt of *Reading*, and is only noted, like *Theale*, and the other Towns beyond *Reading*, for its Number of Inns, for the Accommodations of Carriers, *&c.*

Juſt beyond *Theale*, is *Inglefield*, where King *Ethelwolf* routed the *Danes*.

From *Reading* I went to *Great Marlow* in *Buckinghamſhire*, which, tho' not in the direct Road, yet, lying on the Banks of the River *Thames*, is proper enough to be ſpoken of, as it ſends two Members to Parliament, and is particularly worth Notice for ſeveral other Things.

1. It is a Town of very great Imbarkation on the *Thames*, not ſo much for Manufactures wrought here (for the Trade of the Town is chiefly in *Bone-lace*), but

but for Goods brought from the neighbouring Towns; a very great Quantity of Malt and Meal, particularly, being brought hither from *High Wickham*, which is one of the greateſt Corn-markets on this Side of *England*, and lies on the Road from *London* to *Oxford*.

2. Between *High Wickham* and *Marlow*, is a little River called the *Loddon*, on which are a great many Corn-mills, and ſome Paper-mills: the firſt of theſe grind and dreſs the Wheat, and then the Meal is ſent to *Marlow*, and put on board the Barges for *London*; and the ſecond make great Quantities of ordinary Printing-paper.

3. On the *Thames*, juſt by the Side of this Town, tho' on the other Bank, are three very remarkable Mills, called the *Temple-mills*, or the *Braſs-mills*, for making *Biſham* Abbey *Battery-Work*, as they call it, *viz.* Braſs Kettles and Pans, *&c.* of all Sorts. And theſe Works were attended with no ſmall Succeſs, till, in the Year 1720. they made a Bubble of it; and then it ran the Fate of all the Bubbles at that time.

4. Next to theſe are two Mills, which are both of an extraordinary kind; one, for making of Thimbles, a Work which perſorms to Admiration; and another, for preſſing of Oil from Rape and Flax-ſeed; both which turn to very good Account to the Proprietors.

Hither is alſo brought down a vaſt Quantity of Beech Wood, which grows in *Buckinghamſhire* more plentifully than in any other Part of *England*, and from whence the County itſelf derives its Name.

At *Biſham*, over-againſt this Town, was formerly an Abbey; and the Remains of it are ſtill to be ſeen. The Eſtate belong'd once to the *Knights Templars*, and ſince came to the antient Family of *Hobby*, whereof Sir *William Hobby*, and Sir *Edward Hobby*, are noted in our Hiſtories; the latter as having been employed by Queen *Elizabeth* in the moſt important foreign Nego-

Negotiations, as a learned Man, and great Antiquary. Their Monuments, with thoſe of their Ladies and Children, are in the little Church of *Biſham*, and well worth ſeeing. The Seat of the Family is now in *Dorſetſhire*, but hither they are generally all brought, when they die, to be buried with their Anceſtors.

A little higher, on the ſame Side of the River, is *Hurley*, an antient Seat of the Lord *Lovelace*; and all the Male Branches of the Family being extinct, it came, by the Daughter and Heireſs to Sir *Henry Johnſon* of *Blackwall*, near *Ratcliffe*, who originally was only a Shipwright, or Maſter-builder, at the great Yard and Dock there, of which I ſhall ſpeak in their Place. This Lady left only one Daughter, married to the late Earl of *Strafford*.

From hence we fell with the *Thames* into *Maidenhead*, and ſo came into the *London* Road again. It is an antient Corporation under the Government of an High-ſteward, a Mayor, Steward, and ten Aldermen; out of which they annually elect two Bridgemaſters to look after the large Timber-bridge which here croſſes the *Thames*, for the Repair of which the Town has three Trees annually allowed them, out of *Windſor* Foreſt. The Mayor, for the Time being, is Clerk of the Market, and Coroner; and he, and the Mayor for the preceding Year, and the Steward, are Juſtices of the Peace: they chooſe yearly two Mace-bearers. It is ſaid to have had its Name from an Head worſhiped there before the Reformation, of one of the eleven thouſand Virgins, that, the Legends tell us, were martyred with St. *Urſula*: yet it was incorporated, in the 26th of *Edward* III. by the Name of The Fraternity or Guild of the Brothers and Sifters of *Maiden-hith*. The Town is a large Thoroughfare, with many good Inns in it, and has a good Market weekly every *Wedneſday*. It lies in two Pariſhes, one

Part of it is in *Bray*, famous of old for its conforming Vicar to all Changes, in Church and State; the other in *Cookham*: and the Barge-pier of the Bridge divides *Buckinghamſhire* and *Berkſhire*. The public Buildings are, the Bridge, and the Corporation-chapel; the Miniſter of which is choſen by the Inhabitants, and is not ſubject to Epiſcopal Viſitation.

Not far from *Maidenhead*, at *Laurence-Waltham*, was a conſiderable *Roman* Fort. It ſtood in a Field now call'd *Weycock*, or *High-Rood*; in which *Roman* Coins have been frequently plowed up.

Sunning was antiently a Biſhop's See, and *Ethelſtan* was the firſt Biſhop; but was removed by *Hermanus*, the ninth Biſhop, to *Saliſbury*.

As ſoon as you are out of *Maidenhead*, you ſee *Cliefden* on your Left, where *George* Duke of *Buckingham* began a magnificent and delightful Palace, which the late Earl of *Orkney* afterwards purchaſed of the Family, and finiſhed; and now has the Honour to be the Summer Retreat of his Royal Highneſs *Frederic* Prince of *Wales*.

We came to *Slough*, a Village five Miles Eaſt of *Maidenhead*, which conſiſts almoſt intirely of Inns. They ſeem to vie with one another, and 'tis wonderful how they all ſubſiſt; and eſpecially as they are oppoſed by the two famous new ones of the *Caſtle* and *Windmill*, a little Way out of *Slough*, which are much more delightfully ſituated, and have better Accommodations.

Here we left the Road, and turn'd to the Right, and ſoon arriv'd at *Eton*, where is the fineſt School for Grammar Learning, that is in *Britain*, or, perhaps, in *Europe*.

The Buildings, except the great School-room, are antient; the Chapel *Gothic*; but all has been repair'd, at a very great Expence, out of the College Stock,

within theſe few Years, and a noble Library built, for the Reception of Books.

In the great Court a fine Statue is erected to the Honour of the Founder, by Dr. *Godolphin*, late Dean of *St. Paul*'s, and Provoſt of this College; and the Library has receiv'd ſeveral conſiderable Benefactions; particularly, very lately, the fine Collection of *Richard Topham*, Eſq; formerly Keeper of the Records in the *Tower*, which was preſented to it by the late excellent Lord Chief Juſtice *Reeves*. And before that a Collection of Books, valued at 2000*l.* was left to it by Dr. *Waddington*, late Biſhop of *Chicheſter*.

The Gardens, which extend from the College down almoſt to the Bank of the *Thames*, are well planted and kept.

This College was founded by King *Henry* VI. a Prince munificent in his Gifts for the Encouragement of Learning. Witneſs, beſides this noble Foundation, that of *King*'s College in *Cambridge*, to which the Scholars of *Eton* are annually removed; and which, had it been perfected as he deſigned it, would have been the nobleſt Building of the Kind in the World. But his Succeſſor and Depoſer, King *Edward* IV. took ſeveral Manors from *Eton* College, and beſtowed them on their Neighbours at *Windſor*; and had intended to have taken from them ſtill more, had not the celebrated *Jane Shore* ſolicited in their Behalf.

This College has a ſettled Revenue of about 5000*l.* *per Ann.* and maintains a Provoſt, a Vice-provoſt, who is alſo a Fellow, ſix other Fellows, and ſeventy Scholars on the Foundation, beſides a full Choir for the Chapel, with neceſſary Officers and Servants. The School is divided into the upper and lower, and each into three Claſſes; each School has one Maſter, and each Maſter four Aſſiſtants, or Uſhers. None

are

are received into the upper School, till they can make *Latin* Verſes, and have a tolerable Knowlege of the *Greek*. In the lower School the Children are receiv'd very young, and are initiated into all School-learning. Beſides the ſeventy Scholars upon the Foundation, there are always abundance of Children, generally ſpeaking, of the beſt Families, and of Perſons of Diſtinction, who are boarded in the Houſes of the Townſmen, and within the College.

The Number of Scholars inſtructed here uſed to be from 400 to 500; but has not been, for ſeveral Years paſt, more than 320.

The Election of Scholars for the Univerſity, out of this School, is made annually, on the firſt *Tueſday* in *Auguſt*: in order to it, three Perſons are deputed, from *King*'s College in *Cambridge*, *viz.* the Provoſt of that College, and one ſenïor, and one junior Poſer, Fellows of the ſame; who, being joined by the Provoſt, Vice-provoſt, and Head-maſter of *Eton* College, call before them the Scholars of the upper Claſs; and, examining them in the ſeveral Parts of their Learning, chooſe out twelve ſuch as they think beſt qualified, and enter them in a Roll, or Liſt, for the Univerſity. Theſe Youths are not immediately removed from the School, but muſt wait till Vacancies fall in *King*'s College; and, as ſuch happen, are then taken as they ſtand in Seniority in the Roll of Election.

When a Scholar from *Eton* comes to *King*'s College, he is received upon the Foundation, and purſues his Studies there for three Years; after which, he claims a Fellowſhip, unleſs forfeited by Marriage, accepting of eccleſiaſtic Preferments, *&c.* according to the Terms of the Statutes.

The Provoſt has a noble Houſe and Garden, beſides the Uſe of the College Gardens, at his Pleaſure. *Aug.* 11. 1747. his Majeſty honoured this Seat of

Learning with his Royal Preſence; when he was complimented in three *Latin* Speeches, by three young Gentlemen there educated; of which the King was graciouſly pleaſed to expreſs his Approbation, to the great Encouragement of the Scholars, and, more remotely, to the Benefit of Learning itſelf.

Will you, Sir, excuſe me here a few Lines to the Memory of the late excellent Lord Chief Juſtice *Reeves*, before-mentioned? This worthy and eminent Lawyer had a Seat in this Town, to which he conſtantly retired at the Cloſe of every Term, while he was at the Bar; for he would never go the Circuit, or attend the Court of Chancery; and actually declined accepting of the high Office of a Judge, while his Lady lived, chooſing rather to ſpend his Vacations in Retirement with his Family, than either Honour or Profit: yet he was purſued, even here, with Caſes, for his Opinion, as being the greateſt Lawyer of his time; and theſe were conveyed to him by his Clerk, from his Chambers in the *Temple*: and, after he had anſwered them, he would return them thither again, without ſeeing the Practiſers who left them.

This Gentleman lay a long time undiſtinguiſhed in his Profeſſion, under an invincible Modeſty; inſomuch that he thought once of quitting the Bar: but a lucky Occaſion happening, whereby he had an Opportunity to ſhew his great Parts and Learning, he was ſoon taken Notice of, and retain'd, in every Cauſe of Moment; but, however, confin'd himſelf intirely to the Courts of Law, and chiefly to that of the King's Bench. After the Death of his Wife, he was prevailed with to aſcend the Bench, as a Judge, in the laſt Court; which he accepted, probably, to alleviate and divert the Concern he was in for her Death. He was afterwards made Lord Chief Juſtice of the Common Pleas, in which Office he lived but two Years. His Death was a public Loſs, and much lamented.

I am

I am now come to *Windſor*, ſo call'd from its *winding* Banks, or *Shore*; where I muſt, for a while, quit the Subject of Trade and Navigation, in order to deſcribe the moſt beautiful and pleaſantly-ſituated Caſtle, and Royal Palace, in the whole Iſle of *Great Britain*.

William the Conqueror was the firſt of our *Engliſh* Monarchs, who diſtinguiſhed *Windſor*. That Prince, who delighted much in Hunting, finding it a Situation highly proper for that Purpoſe, and, as he ſaid of it, a ſuitable Place for the Entertainment of Kings, agreed with the Abbat of *Weſtminſter* for an Exchange, and ſo took Poſſeſſion of it. He built a Caſtle here, and had ſeveral little Lodges, or Hunting-houſes, in the Foreſt adjoining; and frequently lodged, for the Conveniency of his Sport, in an Houſe which the Monks before enjoyed, near or in the Town of *Windſor*; for the Town is much more antient than the preſent Caſtle, and was an eminent Paſs upon the *Thames* in the Reign of the *Saxon* Kings.

Henry I. rebuilt and fortified it, ſummoning all his Nobility to attend him here, at *Whitſuntide*, in the 10th Year of his Reign. Here *Edward* I. had four Children born by his Queen *Eleanor*, who took great Delight in this Situation: but it did not arrive to further Magnificence till the Reign of King *Edward* III. who, being called *Edward of Windſor*, becauſe there born, and taking an extreme Liking to this Place, reſolved to fix his Summer-reſidence here; and, accordingly, laid out, himſelf, the Plan of that magnificent Palace, which, as to outward Form and Building, we now ſee there: for whatever has been done, as to beautifying, altering, or amending, the Inſide and Apartments; nothing has been added to the Building itſelf, except that noble Terrace which runs under the North Front, and leads to the Green on the Park, at the Eaſt-ſide or End of it, along which the fine

Lodgings, and Royal Apartments, were at firſt built; all the North Part being then taken up in Rooms of State, and Halls for public Balls, *&c.*

The Houſe itſelf was indeed a Palace, and without any Appearance of a Fortification; but when the Building was brought on to the Slope of the Hill on the Town-ſide, the King added Ditches, Ramparts, the Round Tower, and ſeveral other Places of Strength; and thence it was called a Caſtle.

Such a Pride did this great King take in being the Founder of this ſumptuous Building, that when it was ſuggeſted to him, that *William of Wickham* had aſſumed the Honour of it to himſelf, it had like to have coſt *William* all his Intereſt in the King's Favour, which at that time was very great; but the Prelate cleared himſelf, by diſavowing the Charge; urging, that all he pretended to was to acknowlege, That the Money and the Reputation he had gained by building that Caſtle for the King, had been the Making of him. For it ſeems he had cauſed theſe Words,

THIS MADE WICKHAM,

to be cut in Stone in the inner Wall of the little Tower; which from him is, to this Day, call'd *Wincheſter Tower.*

William of Wickham, whom I have before mentioned, in my Account of *Wincheſter*, was, at that time, the Architect of the Court; and ſo well perform'd his Part, that in all the Decorations and Ornaments which have been made ſince, by ſucceeding Princes, they have found no Occaſion to add to or diminiſh any thing, except it be to alter ſome ſmall Matter at the Entrance to the great Stair-caſe, the Kitchen, and Offices below-ſtairs, and ſuch-like; but the great North and Eaſt Fronts, the Square of the inner Court, the great Gates at the Entering from

the

the Town, with the Round Tower, and the Walls annex'd, are all ſtanding, in the very Form in which King *Edward* III. left them.

The only Addition in the Inſide, is a fine Equeſtrian Statue of King *Charles* II. which ſtands over the great Well, ſunk, as may be ſuppoſed, in the firſt Building, for the Supply of the Caſtle with Water; and in which was an Engine for raiſing it, notwithſtanding the great Depth, by very little Labour; the Contrivance and Performance of Sir *Samuel Morland*, an excellent Mechanic and Mathematician.

On the Outſide, as I have ſaid, was added the Terrace-walk, by Queen *Elizabeth*, where ſhe uſually walked for an Hour every Day before her Dinner, if not hindered by windy Weather, to which ſhe had a peculiar Averſion; for ſhe loved to walk in a mild calm Rain, with an Umbrella over her Head.

This is a truly magnificent Work: for, as it is raiſed on a ſteep Declivity of the Hill, it was neceſſarily cut down a very great Depth, to bring the Foundation to a Flat equal to the Breadth, which was to be formed above. From the Foundation it was raiſed by ſolid Stone-work of a vaſt Thickneſs, with croſs Walls of Stone, for banding the Front, and preventing any Thruſt from the Weight of Earth within.

This noble Walk is covered with fine Gravel, and has Cavities, with Drains, to carry off the Water; ſo that not a Drop of Rain will reſt on the Terrace, but it is dry, hard, and fit to walk on, immediately after the greateſt Showers. The Breadth of this Walk is very ſpacious on the North Side; on the Eaſt Side it is narrower. Neither *Verſailles*, nor any of the Royal Palaces in *France*, *Naples*, or *Rome*, can ſhew any thing like this. The Grand Seignior's Terrace, in the outer Court of the *Seraglio* next the Sea, is what, I think, comes the neareſt, and yet is

not equal to it, if I may believe the Account of thoſe who have ſeen it.

At the End of this Walk, leading into the Park, King *Charles* I. built a Gate; and his Royal Succeſſor adorned this auguſt Palace with a well-ordered Magazine of Arms, many curious Paintings, and other Improvements; which were continued by King *James* II. and *William* III.

The Caſtle contains two ſquare Courts, with a Tower between them; which ſome diſtinguiſh by the Name of ſo many Wards, as the higher Ward is the inner ſquare Court, the middle Ward is the Tower, and the lower Ward is the outer ſquare Court.

At the North-eaſt Corner of this Terrace, where it turns South, to run on by the Eaſt Side of the Caſtle, are Steps, by which you go off upon the Plain of the Park, which is kept ſmooth as a Carpet, and on the Edge of which the Proſpect of the Terrace is doubled by a Viſta, South over the Park, and quite up to the great Park, and towards the Foreſt. Here alſo is a ſmall Seat, that will not contain above one, or two, at moſt, with an high Back, and Cover for the Head, which being fixed on a Pin of Iron or Braſs, the Perſons who ſit in it may eaſily turn it from the Wind, however it may blow, and enjoy a complete Calm. This is ſaid alſo to be Queen *Elizabeth*'s Invention, to avoid being ruffled with the Wind; and it affords no leſs Shelter from the Sun.

From this lofty Terrace the People within have an Egreſs to the Park, and to a moſt beautiful Walk, which neither King *Edward* III. nor his Succeſſors, for ſome hundreds of Years, knew any thing of; all their Proſpect being from the Windows of the Caſtle.

On that Side of the Building which looks out upon the Terrace, are all the Royal Apartments; thoſe of King

King *Edward* III. which were on the East Side, being now allotted to great Officers of State.

You mount into the Royal Apartments by ſeveral back Stairs, but the public Way is up a ſmall Aſcent to a Flat, or Half-pace, where are two Entries of State by two magnificent Stair-caſes; one on the Left-hand to the Royal Apartments, and the other on the Right, to *St. George's-hall*, and the Royal Chapel.

Before the Entrance to theſe, on either Side, you paſs thro' the Guard-chambers, where you ſee the Walls furniſhed with Arms, and the King's Yeomen of the Guard keep their Station. Theſe Rooms lead as well to the fine Lodgings, as to *St. George's-hall.*

In the Cieling is *Britannia* on a Globe, the *Indies* offering her Riches, and *Europe* preſenting her with a Crown, ſurrounded with a Circle in Form of a Snake. Theſe Chambers are adorned with a fine Picture of Prince *George* of *Denmark* on Horſeback over the Chimney in one of them, and of *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden*, over the other. There are alſo the admirable Pieces of *Judith* and *Holofernes*, *Mary Magdalen*, the *Roman* Charity, the Murder of the *Innocents*, *Jupiter* and *Leda*, Fruit-pieces, *&c.* in the Dining-room; Canopies of State, which exceed Deſcription, ineſtimable Pictures, in the Cloſet, and little Gallery; with that of *Engliſh* Beauties, which alone, ſays a Connoiſſeur in Painting, are worth a Stranger's coming to *England* to ſee.

In the Royal Lodgings there have been ſo many Alterations of Furniture, that there can be no entering upon a particular Deſcription. In the Chimney-piece of one of theſe Apartments, is a Piece of Needle-work exquiſitely fine, performed, as they ſay, by the Queen of *Scots*, during the time of her Confinement in *Fotheringay-caſtle*. There are ſeveral Family Pictures in the Chimney-pieces, and other Parts of thoſe Lodgings, which are very valuable.

not equal to it, if I may believe the Account of thoſe who have ſeen it.

At the End of this Walk, leading into the Park, King *Charles* I. built a Gate; and his Royal Succeſſor adorned this auguſt Palace with a well-ordered Magazine of Arms, many curious Paintings, and other Improvements; which were continued by King *James* II. and *William* III.

The Caſtle contains two ſquare Courts, with a Tower between them; which ſome diſtinguiſh by the Name of ſo many Wards, as the higher Ward is the inner ſquare Court, the middle Ward is the Tower, and the lower Ward is the outer ſquare Court.

At the North-eaſt Corner of this Terrace, where it turns South, to run on by the Eaſt Side of the Caſtle, are Steps, by which you go off upon the Plain of the Park, which is kept ſmooth as a Carpet, and on the Edge of which the Proſpect of the Terrace is doubled by a Viſta, South over the Park, and quite up to the great Park, and towards the Foreſt. Here alſo is a ſmall Seat, that will not contain above one, or two, at moſt, with an high Back, and Cover for the Head, which being fixed on a Pin of Iron or Braſs, the Perſons who ſit in it may eaſily turn it from the Wind, however it may blow, and enjoy a complete Calm. This is ſaid alſo to be Queen *Elizabeth*'s Invention, to avoid being ruffled with the Wind; and it affords no leſs Shelter from the Sun.

From this lofty Terrace the People within have an Egreſs to the Park, and to a moſt beautiful Walk, which neither King *Edward* III. nor his Succeſſors, for ſome hundreds of Years, knew any thing of; all their Proſpect being from the Windows of the Caſtle.

On that Side of the Building which looks out upon the Terrace, are all the Royal Apartments; thoſe of King

King *Edward* III. which were on the Eaſt Side, being now allotted to great Officers of State.

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. Theſe Rooms look all out North towards the Terrace, and over Part of the fineſt and richeſt Vale in the World; which along the Courſe of the River *Thames*, with very little Interruption, reaches to, and includes, the City of *London* Eaſt, and the City of *Oxford* Weſt; the River, with a beautiful winding Stream, gliding gently thro' the Middle of it, and enriching, by its Navigation, both the Land, and the People, on every Side.

It may be proper to ſay ſomething of the Beauties and Ornaments of *St. George's-hall*, tho' nothing can be ſaid equal to what the Eye may be Witneſs to. It is very wide and long, and was originally uſed for the Entertainment of the Knights of the Garter, at their Inſtallation. It is ſurpriſing, at the firſt Entrance, to ſee at the Upper-end the Picture of King *William* on Horſe-back; under him an Aſcent with Marble Steps, a Baluſtrade, and an Half-pace, which formerly was actually there, with room for a Throne, or Chair of State, for the Sovereign to ſit on, when on public Days he thought fit to appear in Ceremony.

Here we may alſo admire the Picture of *Edward* the Black Prince, preſenting the Kings of *France* and *Scotland*, his Priſoners, to his Father King *Edward* III. ſitting on a Throne: nor would I paſs over in Silence the Repreſentation of the Triumphs of King *Charles* II. over Rebellion, and falſe Patriotiſm.

At the Weſt End of the Hall is the Chapel Royal, the neateſt and fineſt of the kind in *England*: the carved Work is beyond any that can be ſeen in the Kingdom.

After we had ſpent ſome Hours in viewing all that was curious on this Side, we came down to the Dungeon, or *Round Tower*, which goes up a long, but eaſy, Aſcent of Steps, and is very high. Here we were obliged to deliver up our Swords, but no-where elſe; tho' here is nothing curious. The Governor's or

Con-

Conſtable's Lodgings are neatly furniſhed, but nowiſe extraordinary.

From this Tower you ſee *St. Paul*'s Cathedral at *London*, very plainly.

Coming down from hence, we entered into the other Court, where are the great Chapel of *St. George*, belonging to the Order of the Garter, and the Houſe or College for the Poor Knights, as they are called.

I might go back here to the Hiſtory of the Order of the Garter, the Inſtitution of which by King *Edward* III. had its Original here: but this is done ſo fully in other Authors, that I ſhall only mention, That this Order was not founded on the Counteſs of *Saliſbury*'s Garter, as *Polydore Virgil*, the moſt conceited and moſt erroneous Author that ever wrote of the *Engliſh* Affairs, ridiculouſly aſſerts; but on that martial King's own Garter, which he gave as the Signal at the glorious Battle of *Creſſi*, as *St. George* was given for the Word of the Day. To commemorate which, in Honour of his brave and warlike Son, and of thoſe Nobles and Gentlemen who ſhared with him in the Glory of that ever-memorable Day, he inſtituted this Order. And here I can't forbear obſerving (tho' intirely out of my Way), how fond we have ever been in following Foreigners in moſt Things, even from the Coxcomb in Dreſs, up to the Hiſtorian; as is evident, not only from this idle Story of the above-mentioned Author prevailing among us in particular, and of his Hiſtory in general; but, likewiſe, of the Performance of a late foreign Author, of the Affairs and Tranſactions of this Country: whereby the Tranſlator, and Undertakers, to uſher it out in *Engliſh*, got, at leaſt, 10,000*l.* when it had nothing more, but rather much leſs, to recommend it, than any of our own *Engliſh* Hiſtories.

The following are the Names of the firſt Knights of this moſt Noble Order.

King *Edward* III.
The Black Prince.
Henry, D. of *Lancaſter*.
Thomas, Earl of *Warwick*.
Peers Capitow de la Bouch.
Ralph, Earl of *Stafford*.
W. Montacute, E. of *Saliſ*.
Roger Mortimer, Earl of *March*.
John de Lyſle.
Bartholomew Burgherſh.
John de Beauchamp.
John de Mohun.
Hugh Courteney.
Thomas Holland.
John de Grey.
Richard Fitz Simon.
Miles Stapleton.
Thomas Wale.
Hugh Worteſley.
Nele Loring.
John Chandos.
James d' Audeley.
Otho Holland.
Henry Eam.
Sanchet Daubricourt.
Walter Pavely, alias *Pevrell*.

Theſe, tho' not all Noblemen, were however Men of great Characters and Stations, either in the Army, or in the Civil Adminiſtration, and ſuch as the Sovereign did not think it below him to make his Companions.

The lower Court of the Caſtle, although not ſo diſtinguiſhed by Lodgings and Rooms of State, is nevertheleſs particularly glorious for the fine Chapel of the Order, a moſt beautiful and magnificent Work, and which ſhews the Greatneſs not only of the Court in thoſe Days, but the Spirit and Genius of the magnanimous Founder. The Chapel is not only fine within, but the Workmanſhip without is extraordinary: nothing ſo antient is to be ſeen ſo beautiful. *King's-College* Chapel at *Cambridge*, built by *Henry* VI. and *Henry* VII.'s Chapel in *Weſtminſter-Abbey*, are fine Buildings; but they are modern, compared to this,

this, which was begun, as by the inſcribed Dates upon the Walls appears, in the Year 1337.

The Coats of Arms, and the various Imagery and other Ornaments, both inſide and outſide, not only of the King, but of ſeveral of the firſt Knights Companions, are wonderfully finiſhed; and the Work has ſtood out againſt the Injury of time, to Admiration.

'Tis obſervable, that King *Edward* owns this Chapel was begun by his Anceſtors; and ſome think it was by King *Edward* I. and that he himſelf was baptized in it; and there was a Caſtle built by *William the Conqueror* alſo. As to the Chapel, which was then called a Church, or a Convent, King *Edward* III. did not pull down the old Building intirely; but he added all the Choir to the firſt Model, and ſeveral other proper Parts for the Purpoſes intended; as Houſes and handſome Apartments for the Canons, Dignitaries, and other Perſons belonging to the Church, which are generally ſituated on the North Side of the Square, out of Sight, or rather ſkreened from the common View by the Church itſelf; which Dwellings are, notwithſtanding, very good, and well accommodated for the Perſons who are Poſſeſſors of them: then the King finiſhed it, in the Manner we now ſee it. As for the old Caſtle, the Building of *William the Conqueror*, the King pulled it down to the Foundation, forming a new Building according to the preſent Plan, and which ſtood, as above, to the time of King *Charles* II. without any Alteration.

The Eſtabliſhment for this Chapel was very conſiderable, by the Donation of divers Subjects, before it was ſet apart to be the Chapel of the Order: the Duke of *Suffolk*, in particular, as appears in *Dugdale*'s *Monaſticon*, gave it near 3000 Acres of Land, 19 Manors, 170 Meſſuages and Tofts, and ſeveral Advowſons of Churches; which, with other Gifts afterwards, made the Revenue above 1000*l.* a Year in thoſe

thoſe Days, which was a prodigious Sum, as Money went at that time.

The Chapel is paved with Marble, and the Walls are painted with the Hiſtories of the New Teſtament. The Altar-piece repreſents the Inſtitution of the Euchariſt, and the Cieling of the Chancel is illuminated with a View of our Lord's Aſcenſion.

In the Choir are the Stalls for the Knights of the Order, with a Throne for the Sovereign; alſo, Stalls in the Middle of it, for eighteen Poor Knights-Penſioners, who live in their Houſe, or Hoſpital, on the South-ſide of the Square or Court in which the Chapel ſtands. Theſe Knights-Penſioners are cloathed in a red Cloth Caſſock, and a purple Mantle, with a St. *George*'s Croſs on the Left Shoulder; and are obliged to go, cloathed in this manner, twice a Day to Church, to pray for the Sovereign and Knights of the moſt Noble Order of the Garter.

Here are to be ſeen the Banners of the Knights who now enjoy the Honour of the Garter: when they die, thoſe Banners are taken down, and the Coat of Arms of the deceaſed Knight ſet up in the Place allotted for thoſe Arms over the ſame Stall: ſo thoſe Coats of Arms are a living Hiſtory, or rather a Record, of all the Knights that ever have been ſince the firſt Inſtitution of the Order, and how they ſucceeded one another: by which it appears, that Kings, Emperors, and Sovereign Princes, have not thought it below them to accept of the Honour of being Knights Companions of the Order; while, at the ſame time, it muſt be noted, to the Honour of the *Engliſh* Crown, that our Kings have never thought fit to accept of any of their Orders abroad, of what kind ſoever: whereas there is an Account, in the Regiſtry of the Order, that there are reckoned up of this moſt noble Company,

8 Emperors

8 Emperors of *Germany*.
3 Kings of *Sweden*.
5 Kings of *Denmark*.
2 Kings of *Pruſſia*.
3 Kings of *Spain*.
6 Princes of *Orange*.
5 Kings of *France*.
4 Peers of *France*.
A King of *Scotland*, beſides *James* VI.
5 Kings of *Portugal*.
A King of *Poland*.
2 Kings of *Naples*.
A King of *Arragon*.
3 Infants of *Portugal*.
A Prince of *Denmark*.
A Biſhop of *Oſnabrug*.
5 Princes of *Lunenburg*.
An Elector of *Brandenburg*.
7 Electors *Palatine*.
2 Electors of *Saxony*.
2 Dukes of *Lorrain*.
3 Dukes of *Wirtenberg*.
2 Dukes of *Holſtein*.
2 Grandees of *Spain*.
2 Dukes *d' Urbino*.
A Duke of *Savoy*.
A Duke of *Saxe-Gotha*.
A Prince of *Heſſe*, &c.

Beſides theſe Foreign Princes, there is a little *Galaxy* of *Engliſh* Nobility, the Flower of ſo many Courts, and ſo many Ages, to whoſe Families the Enſigns of the Order have been an Honour, and who are not the leaſt Glory it has to boaſt of: but as to the Liſt of the preſent Knights, that being ſubject to Fluctuation, comes not within my Deſign in this Letter.

Several Kings, and Perſons of high Rank, have been buried alſo in this Chapel; as *Edward* IV. and *Charles* I. here alſo is the Family Burying-place of the Dukes of *Beaufort*, who are a natural Branch of the Royal Family of *Lancaſter*.

All the Ceremonies obſerved here in the Inſtalment of the Knights, are ſo perfectly ſet down in Mr. *Aſhmole*'s Hiſtory of the *Order of the Garter*, that nothing can be ſaid but what muſt be a Copy from him.

As the upper Court and Building are fronted with the fine Terrace, ſo the lower Court, where this beautiful Chapel ſtands, is encompaſſed with a very high Wall, which goes round the Weſt-end of the Court

Court to the Gate; and looking South, leads into the Town, as the Gate of the upper Court looks likewiſe South-eaſt into the little Park.

The Parks about *Windſor* are very agreeable and ſpacious: the little Park, as it is called, is above 3 Miles round, the great one 14, and the Foreſt above 30. The firſt is particular to the Court, the others are open for Riding, Hunting, and taking the Air, for any Gentlemen that pleaſe. But whoever would ſee theſe Places deſcribed with the Elegance they deſerve, muſt conſult Mr. *Pope*'s excellent Poem on the Subject; whoſe lively Portraiture muſt afford as much Pleaſure, to the judicious Ear, as the real Proſpect of their natural Beauties would adminiſter to the Eye.

The Lodges in thoſe Parks may be called Palaces, were they not eclipſed by the Palace itſelf. They have been beautified by the noble Perſons to whom the Poſt of Rangers has been generally aſſigned, who, having been enriched by other Advancements, Honours, and profitable Employments, thought nothing too much to lay out to adorn their Apartments, in a Place wherein it was ſo much to their Honour, as well as Convenience, to reſide: ſuch is the Lodge belonging once to the Ducheſs of *Marlborough*, now held by his Royal Highneſs the Duke.

As for the Town of *Windſor*, it has belonged to the Crown ever ſince the Conqueſt. It contains ſeveral Streets, ſome of which lie about the Caſtle; but the principal looks Southward, and is adorned with very good private Buildings, and an handſome Town-hall, built in the Reign of King *Charles* II. It aroſe out of the Ruins of *Old Windſor*, which decayed, in Proportion as the new one advanced under the Site of the Royal Palace and Caſtle. It was conſtituted a free Borough by King *Edward* I. with many Privileges, which it enjoys at preſent. The Corporation conſiſts of a Mayor, two Bailiffs, and twenty-eight

others

others choſen out of the Inhabitants, thirteen of whom are called *Fellows* or *Benchers of the Guildhall*; and ten of theſe are ſtiled *Aldermen*, or *Chief Benchers*, out of whom the Mayor and Bailiffs are choſen. This Town returns two Members to Parliament. Every *Wedneſday* it has a Market, and two Fairs in the Year.

In the Foreſt of *Windſor* are ſituated the Towns of *Ockingham* and *Wargrave*, and the fine Houſes of *Cranburne* and *Swallowfield:* the former is a Lodge built by the Earl of *Ranelagh*, and the latter was a Seat of the Earl of *Clarendon*.

Ockingham is a pretty large and well-frequented Market-town on *Wedneſdays*. It has three Fairs, and contains ſeveral Streets, a Free-ſchool, an Hoſpital, and a Market-houſe, which ſtands in the Centre. It is governed by an Alderman, Recorder, and Capital Burgeſſes; and is chiefly ſupported by a Manufacture of Cloth, and Silk Stockens.

Wargrave, tho' now much neglected, was formerly a Market-town, and Part of the Poſſeſſions of Queen *Emma*, who paſſed the firy Trial, as the *Ordeal* of the *Saxons* for Female Purity, which, like Gold, acquires its Standard in the Furnace, may be well denominated.

We left *Windſor*, and ſtruck again into the *London* Road at *Colebrook*, and paſſed over the Heath, and thro' the Towns of *Hounſlow*, *Brentford*, *Hamerſmith*, and *Kenſington*, into *London*.

And here I ſhall conclude this Letter with aſſuring you, that I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant.

LETTER

LETTER II.

CONTAINING

A Deſcription of the City of LONDON, *as taking in the City of* Weſtminſter, *Borough of* Southwark, *and the Buildings circumjacent.*

SIR,

I Am now to deſcribe the City of LONDON, and Parts adjacent: a Work infinitely difficult to be performed in the narrow Compaſs of a Letter, ſince we ſee it ſo fully takes up two large Volumes in *Folio*; which yet, if I may venture to give an Opinion of it, is very imperfectly executed, and has employed ſince another very large one in *Folio*, written by Mr. *W. Maitland*, F. R. S. which has much more Merit than the two Volumes, and contains many Things needful to be known by the Curious, which are incompatible with the Brevity to which our narrow Limits confine us.

LONDON, as a City only, and as its Walls and Liberties line it out, might indeed be viewed in a ſmaller Compaſs than what we propoſe to conſider it in: for, when I ſpeak of *London*, in the modern Acceptation, I take in all that vaſt Maſs of Buildings reaching from

Blackwall

Blackwall in the Eaſt, to *Tothill-fields* in the Weſt; and extended, in an unequal Breadth, from the Bridge or River in the South, to *Iſlington* North; and from *Peterborough-houſe* on the *Bank-ſide* in *Weſtminſter*, to *Cavendiſh-ſquare*; and all the new Buildings by and beyond *Groſvenor* and *Hanover* Squares to the *Brentford* Road one way, to the *Acton* Road another; a Prodigy of Buildings, that nothing in the World does, or ever did, ſurpaſs, except old *Rome* in *Trajan*'s time, when the Walls of that City were 50 Miles in Compaſs, and the Number of Inhabitants 6,800,000 Souls.

London, as to its Figure, muſt be owned to be very irregular, as it is ſtretch'd out in Buildings juſt at the Pleaſure of every Undertaker of them, and as the Convenience of the People directs, whether for Trade, or otherwiſe: this gives it a very confuſed Appearance, being properly neither long or broad, round or ſquare; whereas the City of *Rome* was, in a manner, round, with very few Irregularities in its Shape.

One ſees *London*, including the Buildings on both Sides the Water, in ſome Places three Miles broad, as from *St. George*'s in *Southwark*, to *Shoreditch* in *Middleſex*; or two Miles, as from *Peterborough-houſe* to *Montague-houſe*; and in ſome Places not Half a Mile, as in *Wapping*; and leſs in *Rotherhith*.

We ſee ſeveral Villages, formerly ſtanding, as it were, in the Country, and at a great Diſtance, now joined to the Streets by continued Buildings; and more making haſte to meet in the like manner. For Example,

1. *Deptford:* This Town was formerly reckoned at leaſt two Miles from *Rotherhith*, and that over the Marſhes too, a Place unlikely ever to be inhabited; and yet now, by the Increaſe of Buildings in that Town itſelf, and the many Streets erected at *Rotherhith*, and by the Docks and Building-yards on the River-

River-ſide, which ſtand between both, the Town of *Deptford*, and the Streets of *Rotherhith*, are in a manner joined, and the Buildings daily increaſing; ſo that *Deptford* may be reckoned a Part of the great Maſs, and infinitely full of People alſo: and were the Town of *Deptford* now ſeparated, and rated by itſelf, I believe it contains more People, and ſtands upon more Ground than the City of *Wells*.

2. The Village of *Iſlington*, on the North-ſide of the City, is in like manner joined to the Streets of *London*, excepting one ſmall Field, and which is, in itſelf, ſo ſmall, that there is no doubt but in a very few Years they will be intirely joined. And the ſame may be ſaid,

3. Of *Mile-end*, on the Eaſt End of the Town.

4. *Newington-butts*, in *Surrey*, reaches out her Hand North, and is ſo joining to *Southwark*, that it cannot now be properly called a Town by itſelf, but a kind of Suburb to the Borough: and if, as once was talk'd of, *St. George's-fields* ſhould be built into Squares and Streets, *Newington*, *Lambeth*, and the *Borough*, would make but one *Southwark*.

That *Weſtminſter* is in a fair way to join Hands with *Chelſea*, as *St. Giles*'s is with *Marybone*, and *Great Ruſſel-ſtreet* by *Montague-houſe*, with *Tottenham court*, is very evident: and yet all theſe, put together, may ſtill be called *London*. Whither will this City then extend, and where muſt a Circumvallation Line of it be placed?

I have, as near as I could, cauſed a Meaſure to be taken of this mighty Body; and, for the Satisfaction of your Curioſity, I have here given as accurate a Deſcription of it as I can do in ſo narrow a Compaſs, or without drawing a Plan of the Places.

As I am forced, in many Parts, to take in ſome unbuilt Ground; ſo I have, on the other hand, been obliged to leave a great many whole Streets of Buildings

ings out of my Line: ſo that I have really not ſtretch'd my Calculations, to make it ſeem bigger than it is; nor is there any Occaſion for it.

A LINE *of Meaſurement, drawn about all the continued Buildings of the City of* London, *and Parts adjacent, including* Weſtminſter *and* Southwark, *&c.*

N. B. I ſhall ſum up by Figures, 1, 2, 3, *&c.* the Particulars at laſt.

The Line begins, for the MIDDLESEX *Side of the* BUILDINGS,

1. AT *Peterborough-houſe*, the fartheſt Houſe Weſt upon the River *Thames*, and runs North-weſt by Weſt by the Marſhes to *Tothill-fields*; and, paſſing by the *Neat-houſes* and *Arnold*'s Brewhouſe, ends at *Chelſea* Road. Meaſured, 1 *Mile*, 6 *Furlongs*, 16 *Rods*.

2. Then, allowing an Interval from *Buckingham-houſe* croſs the Park, about one Furlong and half to the Corner of my Lord *Godolphin*'s Garden-wall, the Line goes North behind the Stable-yard Buildings, and behind *Park-place*, and on the Park-wall behind the Buildings, on the Weſt Side of *St. James's-ſtreet*, to the Corner in *Soho*, or *Piccadilly*; then croſſing the Road, goes along the North Side of the Road Weſt, *Hyde-park* Gate. 1 *Mile*, 2 *Furlongs*, 11 *Rods*.

3. Then the Line turns North-eaſt by Eaſt, and taking in the Buildings and Streets, called *May-fair*, holds on Eaſt, till the new Streets, formed out of *Hyde-houſe* Garden, cauſe it to turn away North, a Point Weſt reaching to *Tyburn-road*, a little to the Eaſt of the great Mother Conduit; then it goes North, and, croſſing the Road, takes in the Weſt Side

Side of *Cavendiſh-ſquare*, and the Streets adjoining, and, leaving *Marybone*, goes away Eaſt, till it reaches to *Hampſtead-road*, near a little Village called *Tottenham-court*. 2 *Miles*, 5 *Furlongs*, 20 *Rods*.

4. From *Tottenham-court* the Line comes in a little South, to meet the *Bloomſbury* Buildings; then turning Eaſt, runs behind *Montague* and *Southampton* Houſes, to the North-eaſt Corner of *Southampton-houſe*; then croſſing the Path, meets the Buildings called *Queen's-ſquare*; then turning North, till it comes to the North-weſt Corner of the Square; thence it goes away Eaſt, behind the Buildings on the North Side of *Ormond-ſtreet*, till it comes to *Lamb's Conduit*. 1 *Mile*, 1 *Furlong*, 13 *Rods*.

5. Here the Line turns South, and indents to the Corner of *Bedford-row*; and leaving ſome few Houſes, with the Cock-pit and Bowling-green, goes on the Back of *Gray's-inn* Wall to *Gray's-inn-lane*; then turns on the Outſide of the Buildings, which are on the Weſt Side of *Gray's-inn-lane*, going North to the Stone's End, when turning Eaſt, it paſſes to the *New River* Bridge without *Liquor-pond-ſtreet*; ſo taking in the *Cold-bath* and the *Bear-garden*, but leaving out * *Sir John Oldcaſtle's* and the *Spaw*, goes on Eaſt by the *Ducking-pond* to the End of *New Bridewell*; and croſſing the *Fair-field*, comes into the *Iſlington* Road by the Diſtiller's Houſe, formerly Juſtice *Fuller*'s. 1 *Mile*, 2 *Furlongs*, 6 *Rods*.

6. Here, to take in all the Buildings which join *Iſlington* to the Streets, the Line goes North on the Eaſt Side of the Road to the *Turk's-head* Alehouſe; then turning North-weſt, paſſes to the *New River* Houſe; but leaving it to the Weſt, paſſes by *Sadler's-wells*, from thence to *Buſby's-houſe*, and keeping on

* A large Maſs of Buildings has been erected ſince our Author drew this Line, conſiſting of many Streets and Paſſages, the whole *Cold-bath-fields* being built upon, quite up to *Sir John Oldcaſtle's*.

the

the Weſt Side of *Iſlington*, till it comes oppoſite to *Canbury-houſe-lane*, turns into the Road, and paſſes South almoſt to the Lane which turns Eaſt down to the lower Street; but then turns Eaſt without the Houſes, and goes to the *Cowkeeper*'s in the lower Street croſſing the Road, and thro' the *Cowkeeper*'s Yard into *Frog-lane*; then turning Weſt on the South Side of the Town, juſt without the Buildings, joins again to the Buildings on the Weſt Side of *Wood's-cloſe*, paſſing behind the *Sheep-market* Wall. 2 *Miles*, 4 *Furlongs*, 39 *Rods*.

7. From *Wood's-cloſe* the Line goes due Eaſt to *Mount-mill*, where, leaving ſeveral Buildings to the North, it paſſes on, croſſing all the Roads to *Brick-lane*, to the North Side of the great new Square in *Old-ſtreet*, and taking in the *Peſthouſe* Wall, turns South at the North-eaſt Corner of the ſaid Wall to *Old-ſtreet* Road; then going away Eaſt till it meets the Buildings near *Hoxton-ſquare*, it turns North to the North-weſt Corner of the Wall of *Ask*'s Hoſpital; then ſloping North-eaſt, it paſſes by *Pimlico*, the *Cyder-houſe*, and the two Walls to the North End of *Hoxton*, when it turns Eaſt, and incloſing the Garden-walls, comes into the *Ware* Road juſt at the *King's-head* in the New Buildings by the *Land of Promiſe*. 2 *Miles*, 16 *Rods*.

8. From the *King's-head* the Line turns South, running to the Stone's End in *Shoreditch*; then turning Eaſt, it takes in a Burying-ground, and ſome Buildings in the *Hackney* Road, when ſloping South-eaſt by South, it goes away by the *Virginia-houſe* to a great Brewhouſe, and then ſtill more Eaſt to the Back of *Wheeler-ſtreet*, and then Eaſt by South to *Brick-lane*, croſſing which, it goes away Eaſt towards *Bethnal-green*; but then turning ſhort South, it goes towards *White-chapel Mount*; but being intercepted by new Streets, it goes quite up to the South End of the

Dog-

Dog-row at *Mile-end*. 1 *Mile*, 6 *Furlongs*, 19 *Rods*.

9. From the *Dog-row* the Line croſſes the Road, and takes in a Hamlet of Houſes, called *Stepney*; and coming back Weſt to the Street's End at *White-chapel Mill*, goes away South by the *Hog-houſes* into *Church-lane*, and to *Rag-fair*; when turning again Eaſt, it continues in a ſtrait Line on the North Side of *Ratcliff Highway*, till it comes almoſt to the farther *Glaſs-houſes*; then turning North, it ſurrounds all *Stepney*, and *Stepney-cauſway*, to *Mile-end* Road; then turning Eaſt again, and afterwards South, comes back to the new Streets on the North Side of *Limehouſe*, and, joining the Marſh, comes down to the Water-ſide at the Lower Shipwright Dock in *Limehouſe-hole*. 3 *Miles*, 7 *Furlongs*, 1 *Rod*.

The Particulars of the *Middleſex* Side, put together, are as follow; *viz.*

	Miles.	Furl.	Rods.
1	1	6	16
2	1	2	11
3	2	5	20
4	1	1	13
5	1	2	6
6	2	4	39
7	2	0	16
8	1	6	19
9	3	7	1
Total	18	4	21

N. B. This Line leaves out all the North Side of *Mile-end*, from the End of the *Dog-row* to the *Jews* Burying-ground, which is all built; alſo all the North Part of the *Dog-row*, and all *Bethnal-green*; alſo all *Poplar* and *Black-wall*, which are indeed contiguous, a Trifle of Ground excepted, and very populous.

For the Southwark *Side of the Buildings, the Line is as follows:*

HAving ended the Circumference of the *Middleſex* Building at *Lime-houſe*, and the Street extending towards *Poplar*, the Hamlets of *Poplar* and *Blackwall*, tho' very near contiguous in Buildings, being excluded, I allow an Interval of two Miles, from *Poplar*, croſs the *Iſle of Dogs*, and over the *Thames*, to the Lower Water-gate at *Deptford:* and tho' in meaſuring the Circumference of all Cities, the River, where any ſuch runs thro' Part of the Buildings, is always meaſured; yet, that I may not be ſaid to ſtretch the Extent of the Buildings which I include in this Account, I omit the River from *Limehouſe* to *Deptford* (where, if included, it ought to commence), and begin my Line as above.

1. From the ſaid Water-gate at *Deptford*, the Line goes Eaſt to the Corner next the *Thames*, where the Shipwrights Yard now is, and where I find a continued Range of Buildings begins by the Side of a little Creek or River, which runs into the *Thames* there, and reaches quite up the ſaid River, to the Bridge in the great *Kentiſh* Road, and over the Street there, taking in the South Side of the Street to the Weſt Corner of the Buildings in that Street, and then meaſuring down on the Weſt Side of the long Street, which runs to the *Thames* Side, till you come to the new Street which paſſes from *Deptford* to *Rotherhith*; then turning to the Left, paſſing on the Back-ſide of the *King's Yard* to Mr. *Evelin*'s Houſe, including the new Church of *Deptford*, and all the new Streets or Buildings made on the Fields Side, which are very many, this amounts, in the Whole, to 3 *Miles*, 1 *Furlong*, 16 *Rods*.

2. From Mr. *Evelin*'s Garden-gate the Line goes North-weſt, taking in all the new Docks and Yards, the *Red-houſe*, and ſeveral large Streets of Houſes, which have been lately built, and by which the ſaid Town of *Deptford* is effectually joined to the Buildings, reaching from *Cuckolds-point* Eaſtward, and which are carried out, as if *Rotherhith* ſtretched forth its Arm to embrace *Deptford*; then for ſome Length *Rotherhith* continues narrow till you come to *Church-ſtreet*, where ſeveral Streets are alſo lately built South, and others parallel with the Street, till gradually the Buildings thicken, and extend farther and farther to the South, and South by Eaſt, till they croſs over the Eaſt End of *Horſydown* to *Bermondſey* Church, and thence Eaſt to the Sign of the *World's-end*, over-againſt the great Fort, being the Remains of the Fortifications drawn round theſe Parts of *Southwark* in the Civil Wars. This Extent is, by Computation, four Miles; but being meaſured as the Streets indented, the Circuit proved 5 *Miles*, 6 *Furlongs*, 12 *Rods*.

3. From this Fort to the Corner of *Long-lane*, and thro' *Long-lane* to the *Lock*, at the End of *Kent-ſtreet*, is 1 *Mile*, 7 *Furlongs*, 2 *Rods*.

4. From the Corner of *Kent-ſtreet* to the Town of *Newington-butts*, drawing the Line behind all the Buildings as they ſtand, and round the ſaid Village of *Newington* to the *Haberdaſhers* Alms-houſes, and thence by the Road to the Windmill at *Blackman-ſtreet*, is 3 *Miles*, 2 *Furlongs*, 16 *Rods*.

5. From the Windmill croſſing *St. George's fields*, on the Back of the *Mint*, to the *Fighting Cocks*, thence to the *Reſtoration Gardens*, and thence on the Outſide of all the Buildings to *Lambeth-wells*, and on to *Vaux-hall* Bridge, over-againſt the other Fort of the old Fortifications, being juſt the ſame Length that thoſe old Fortifications extended, tho' infinitely fuller

of

of Buildings. This laſt Circuit meaſures 3 *Miles*, 5 *Furlongs*, 12 *Rods*.

		Miles.	Furl.	Rods.
The Particulars of the *Southwark* Side *,	1 . . .	3	1	16
	2 . . .	5	6	12
	3 . . .	1	7	2
	4 . . .	3	2	16
	5 . . .	3	5	12
		17	6	18
Middleſex Side . .		18	4	21
Total . .		36	2	39

Were it poſſible to reduce all theſe Buildings to a compact Situation, 'tis generally thought, that the whole Body ſo put together, allowing the neceſſary Ground, which they now employ for the ſeveral Trades in the Out-parts; ſuch as the Building-yards by the River for Shipwrights, Tanners Yards, Dyers, Whitſters, *&c.* would take up 28 Miles in Circumference, very compactly built.

The Gueſſes that are made at the Number of Inhabitants, have been variouſly formed: Mr. *Maitland* above-mentioned (*Anno* 1739.) computes, that within the Walls, and the Bars, as I may ſay, it contains 725,903; but Sir *William Petty*, famous for his Political Arithmetic, ſuppoſed the City, at his laſt Calculation, to contain a Million of People; and this he judges from the Number of Births and Burials: but he muſt take in a greater Compaſs than Mr. *Maitland*, to make up this Number. And according to this Rule, as well by what is well known of the Increaſe

* The Town of *Greenwich*, which may indeed be ſaid to be contiguous to *Deptford*, might be alſo called a Part of the Meaſurement; but I omit it, as I have the Towns of *Chelſea* and *Knightsbridge* on the other Side, tho' the latter actually joins the Town; and the other, as alſo *Kenſington*, very nearly.

of the ſaid Births and Burials, as of the prodigious Increaſe of Buildings, it may be very reaſonable to conclude the preſent Number of Inhabitants *within the Circumference I have mentioned in my Line*, to amount to about 1,500,000 Souls.

The Government of this great City is, perhaps, the beſt regulated that any City can pretend to; and of late Years it boaſts of ſeveral new Regulations, as to Beggars, Lights, Pavements, *&c.* which turn out greatly to its Advantage.

The Government of the City of *London*, in particular, and abſtractedly conſidered, is by the Lord Mayor, twenty-four Aldermen, two Sheriffs, the Recorder, and Common Council; but the Juriſdiction of theſe is confined to that Part only which they call the City and its Liberties, which are marked out, except the *Borough*, by the Walls and the Bars, as they are called.

Beſides this, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of *London* have a Right Preſidial in *Southwark*, and hold frequent Courts at *St. Margaret's-hill* in the *Borough*: they are alſo Conſervators of the Bridge, and the Bridge itſelf is their particular Juriſdiction.

The Lord Mayor, *&c.* is Conſervator of the River *Thames*, from *Staines* Bridge in *Surry* and *Middleſex*, to the River *Medway* in *Kent*, and, as ſome inſiſt, up the *Medway* to *Rocheſter* Bridge.

The Government of the Out-parts is by Juſtices of the Peace, and by the Sheriffs of *London*, who are likewiſe Sheriffs of *Middleſex*; and the Government of *Weſtminſter* is by an High-bailiff, conſtituted by the Dean and Chapter, to whom the Civil Adminiſtration is committed, and who preſides in Elections of Parliament for the City of *Weſtminſter*, and returns the Candidates who are choſen.

The remaining Part of *Southwark* Side, where the City Juriſdiction does not obtain, is governed alſo by a Bench

a Bench of Juſtices, and their proper ſubſtituted Peace-officers, excepting out of this the Privileges of the *Marſhalſeas*, or of the *Marſhal's Court*, the Privilege of the *Marſhal* of the *King's-bench*, and the like.

That I may obſerve ſome Method in my Deſcription, and avoid Repetitions, I will divide my Subject into the following Branches.

I. I will give a brief Account of what the City was before the Fire, and how improved when rebuilt, and within a few Years after it.
II. Of the prodigious Increaſe of Buildings within our own Memory, down to the Year 1748.
III. Of the Public Offices, and City Corporations.
IV. Of the moſt noted Edifices, Structures, and Squares, in and about *London*.
V. Of the principal Hoſpitals, and other charitable Inſtitutions in and about *London*.
VI. Of the Churches of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, *Southwark*, &c.
VII. Of *St. James*'s Palace, the Parliament-houſe, *Weſtminſter-hall*, &c.
VIII. Of the Statues, and other public Ornaments.
IX. Of the Gates of *London* and *Weſtminſter*.
X. Of the Markets of *London*, &c.
XI. Of the Public Schools and Libraries.
XII. Of the Shipping in the *Thames*, and the Trade carried on by means of that noble River.
XIII. Of the Manner by which the City is ſupplied with Water.
XIV. Of the Chriſtenings and Burials in *London*; the Importance of the City of *London* to the whole Kingdom; of its comparative Proportion to the Public Expence; and the diſproportionate Number of Members it returns.

XV. The Benefit to the Public of a good Understanding between the Court and City.

To begin then with the firſt; *viz.*

I.

A brief Account of what the City was before the Fire, and how improved when rebuilt, and within a few Years after it.

TAKE the City, and its adjacent Buildings, to ſtand as deſcribed by Mr. *Stow*, or by any other Author, who wrote before the Fire of *London*; and the Difference between what it was then, and what it is now, may be obſerved thus:

Before the Fire of *London*, *Anno* 1666. the Buildings looked as if they had been formed to make one general Bonfire, whenever any wicked Incendiaries ſhould think fit to attempt it; for the Streets were not only narrow, and the Houſes all built with Timber, Lath, and Plaſter; but the Manner of the Building in thoſe Days, one Story projecting out beyond another, was ſuch, that in ſome narrow Streets the Houſes almoſt touched one another at the Top; inſomuch that it often happened, that if an Houſe was on Fire, the oppoſite Houſe was in more Danger, according as the Wind ſtood, than the Houſes adjoining on either Side.

And tho' by the new Buildings after the Fire, much Ground was given up to enlarge the Streets; yet it is to be obſerved, that the old Houſes ſtood generally upon more Ground, were much larger upon the Flat, and in many Places Gardens, and large Yards about them: ſo that there are many more Houſes built than ſtood before on the ſame Ground. For Example:

Swithen's-

Swithen's-alleys, by the *Royal Exchange*, were all, before the Fire, taken up with one ſingle Merchant's Houſe, Mr. *Swithen* by Name; whereas, upon the ſame Ground where the Houſe ſtood, ſtand now about 22 or 24 Houſes, which belong to his Poſterity.

Copthall-court, in *Throgmorton-ſtreet*, was alſo, before the Fire, a ſingle Houſe, inhabited by a *Dutch* Merchant: likewiſe three more Courts in the ſame Streets were ſingle Houſes, two on the ſame Side of the Way, and one on the other.

The ſeveral Alleys behind *St. Chriſtopher*'s Church, now vulgarly called *St. Chriſtopher's Churchyard*, were likewiſe, before the Fire, one great Houſe, with Warehouſes, in which Mr. *Kendrick* lived, whom I have mentioned in my Account of *Reading* and *Newbury*, and took up almoſt all the Ground on which now a Street of Houſes is erected, called *Prince's-ſtreet*, going thro' into *Lothbury*.

King's-arms Yard in *Coleman-ſtreet*, now built into fine large Houſes, and inhabited by eminent Merchants, was, before the Fire, a Stable-yard for Horſes, and an Inn, which gave the Sign of the *King's-Arms*.

I might give many more Inſtances, but theſe will account for what ſome aſſert; *viz.* That ſo many great Houſes were converted into Streets, Courts, Alleys, and Buildings, that near 4000 Houſes ſtand on the Ground which the Fire left deſolate, more than ſtood on the ſame Ground before.

Another Increaſe of Buildings in the City, is to be taken from the Inhabitants in the unburnt Parts following the ſame Example, of pulling down great old Buildings, which took up large Tracks of Ground in ſome of the well-inhabited Places, and building on the ſame Ground not only ſeveral Houſes, but even whole Streets of Houſes, which are ſince fully inhabited. For Example,

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Croſby-ſquare, within *Biſhopſgate*, formerly the Houſe of Sir *James Langham*, Merchant.

Devonſhire-ſquare and *Street*, with ſeveral back Streets, and Paſſages into *Petticoat-lane* one Way, and *Houndſditch* another, all built on the Ground where the old Earl of *Devonſhire* had an Houſe and Garden.

Bridgwater-ſquare, and ſeveral Streets adjoining, built on the Ground where the Earl of *Bridgwater* had a large Houſe and Garden, in *Barbican*.

Billeter-ſquare, and ſeveral Paſſages adjoining, built upon the Grounds of one great Houſe, in which one Merchant only lived.

All thoſe Palaces of the Nobility, formerly making a moſt beautiful Range of Buildings fronting the *Strand*, with their Gardens reaching to the *Thames*, where they had their particular Water-gates and Stairs, have had the ſame Fate: ſuch as *Eſſex*, *Arundel*, *Norfolk*, *Saliſbury*, *Worceſter*, *Exeter*, *Hungerford*, and *York* Houſes; the Lord *Brook*'s Houſe in *Holborn*, in the Place of which are now ſo many noble Streets and Houſes erected, as are in themſelves equal to a large City: all which extend from the *Temple* to *Northumberland-houſe*; *Somerſet-houſe*, and the *Savoy*, only, intervening: and the latter of theſe may be ſaid to be, not an Houſe, but a little Town; being ſeparated into innumerable Tenements and Apartments.

Theſe are prodigious Enlargements to the City, even upon that which I call inhabited Ground, and where infinite Numbers of People now live, more than lived upon the ſame Spot of Ground before.

Such was the State of *London* before the Fire in 1666. and ſo prodigious were the Improvements made in it, within the Courſe of a few Years after that Diſaſter. But what are theſe, compared to what has been done ſince, within our own Memory? And this brings me to my ſecond Article.

II.

Of the prodigious Increaſe of Buildings, within our own Memory, down to the Year 1748.

NOT to enter on a particular Deſcription of the Buildings, I ſhall only take notice of the Places where ſuch Enlargements are made: As,

1. All thoſe numberleſs Ranges of Building, call'd *Spital-fields*, reaching from *Spital-yard* at *Northern Fallgate*, and from *Artillery-lane* in *Biſhopſgate-ſtreet*, with all the new Streets, beginning at *Hoxton* and the Back of *Shoreditch* Church North, and reaching to *Brick-lane*, and to the End of *Hare-ſtreet*, on the Way to *Bethnal-green* Eaſt; then ſloping away quite to *White-chapel* Road South-eaſt, containing, as ſome People ſay, above 320 Acres of Ground, which are now cloſe built, and inhabited by an infinite Number of People.

The Lanes were deep, dirty, and unfrequented; that Part now called *Spitalfields-market* was a Field of Graſs, with Cows feeding on it, ſince the Year 1670. The *Old Artillery-ground* (where the Parliament liſted their firſt Soldiers againſt the King) took up all thoſe long Streets leading out of *Artillery-lane* to *Spital-yard Back-gate*; and ſo on to the End of *Wheeler-ſtreet*. *Brick-lane*, which is now a long well-paved Street, was a deep dirty Road, frequented chiefly by Carts fetching Bricks that way into *Whitechapel* from Brick-kilns in thoſe Fields, whence it had its Name.

2. On the more Eaſtern Part the ſame Increaſe goes on in Proportion; namely, all *Goodman's-fields*, and the many Streets between *Whitechapel* and *Roſe-mary-lane*, all built ſince the Year 1678. *Well-cloſe*, now called *Marine-ſquare*, all the hither or Weſt End of *Ratcliff-highway*, from the Corner of *Gravel-lane*

to the East End of *East-Smithfield*, was a Road over the Fields; likewise, those Buildings now called *Virginia-street*, and all the Streets on the Side of *Ratcliff-highway* to *Gravel-lane* above-named, which of late Years extends so far, that the End of *Limehouse* stands a Chance to be soon joined to the Beginning of *Poplar*.

3. To come to the North Side of the Town, and beginning at *Shoreditch* West, and *Hoxton-square*, and *Charles-square* adjoining, those were all open Fields, from *Agnes St. Clare* to *Hoxton* Town, till the Year 1689. or thereabout. *Pitfield-street* was a Bank, parting two Pasture-grounds; and *Ask*'s Hospital was another open Field. Farther West, the like Addition of Buildings begins at the Foot-way by the *Pest-house*, and includes the *French* Hospital, *Old-street* two Squares, and several Streets, extending from *Brick-lane* to *Mount-mill* and the Road to *Islington*, and from that Road, still West, to *Wood's-close*, and to *St. John*'s and *Clerkenwell*; all which Streets and Squares are built since the Years 1688. and 1689. and were before that, and some for a long time after, open Fields or Gardens, and never built on till after that time; and moreover, within these few Years, all those open Grounds, called *Bunhill-fields*, adjoining to the *Dissenters* Burying-ground (nicknamed from the famous Mr. *Baxter*, who was the first there buried, *Saints Rest*, alluding to the Title of a Book he had published), are now built upon, and are complete Streets of Houses to the very Road, and generally well inhabited.

From hence we go on still West, and beginning at *Gray's-inn*, and going on to those formerly call'd *Red-lion* Fields, and *Lamb's conduit* Fields, we see there prodigious Piles of Buildings: they begin at *Gray's-Inn-wall* towards *Red-lion-street*, from whence, in a strait Line, they go quite to *Lamb's-conduit* Fields North,

North, including a great Range of Buildings reaching to *Bedford-row* and the *Cockpit* Eaſt, and including *Red-lion-ſquare*, *Ormond-ſtreet*, *Great* and *Little Marlborough-ſtreets*, *Queen's-ſquare*, and all the Streets between the Square and *King's-gate* in *Holborn*. Theſe Piles are very great, and the Houſes ſo magnificent and large, that abundance of Perſons of Quality are found among them.

Farther Weſt, in the ſame Line, is *Southampton* great Square, called *Bloomsbu.y*, with *King-ſtreet* on the Eaſt Side of it, and all the numberleſs Streets Weſt of the Square to the Market-place, and thro' *Great Ruſſel-ſtreet* by *Montagu-houſe* quite into the *Hampſtead* Road; all which Buildings, except *Southampton-houſe*, and ſome of the Square, have been formed from the open Fields ſince the Time above-mentioned, and contain ſeveral thouſands of Houſes.

The Increaſe of the Buildings in *St. Giles*'s and *St. Martin's in the Fields*, is really a kind of Prodigy; compriſing all the Buildings North of *Long-acre*, up to the *Seven Dials*; all the Streets from *Leiceſter-fields* and *St. Martin's-lane*, both North and Weſt, to the *Hay-market* and *Soho*, and from the *Hay-market* to *St. James's-ſtreet* incluſive, and to the Park-wall; then all the Buildings on the North Side of the Street called *Piccadilly*, and the Road to *Knights-bridge*, and between that and the South-ſide of *Tyburn* Road, including *Soho-ſquare*, *Golden-ſquare*, *Hanover-ſquare*, the two *Bond-ſtreets*, *George's-ſtreet*, and that new City ſtretching out to *Tyburn* Road, called *Groſvenor-ſquare*, and *Cavendiſh-ſquare*, and all the Streets about them; ſome Part of which will be briefly mentioned under the Head of *Squares*.

This laſt Addition is, by Calculation, more in Bulk than the Cities of *Briſtol*, *Exeter*, and *York*, if they were all put together; all which Places were; a few

Years ago, mere Fields of Graſs, and employed only to feed Cattle.

In *Spring-gardens*, near *Charing-croſs*, are lately erected ſeveral very handſome new Buildings, and a neat Chapel.

The new Buildings in the End of *Broad-ſtreet*, near *Biſhopſgate*, formerly called *Petty-France*, deſerve to be mentioned here. It is in every one's Memory, what a poor and decayed Place *Petty-France* was; but now the Spot where it ſtood is called *New Broad-ſtreet*, and the Buildings are the moſt ſtately and elegant in the City. They are increaſed quite into *Old Bethlehem*, which conſiſted of mean and ruinous Houſes; and there may be ſaid to be a new and ſtately Town of Buildings erected here.

It would be endleſs to enumerate the other new Buildings that have taken Place in and about this great City, of old and ruinous Houſes and Streets. *See the Articles of* Churches, Squares, *&c.*

III.

Of the Public Offices, and City Corporations.

THE EXCISE-OFFICE is kept in the *Old Jewry*, in a very large Houſe, formerly the Dwelling of Sir *John Frederick*, and afterwards of Sir *John Hern*, very conſiderable Merchants. In this one Office is managed an immenſe Weight of Buſineſs, and they have in Pay ſeveral thouſands of Officers. The whole Kingdom is divided by them into proper Diſtricts, and to every Diſtrict a Collector, a Superviſor, and a certain Number of Gaugers, called, by the Vulgar, *Exciſe-men*.

Under the Management of this Office are now brought not only the Exciſe upon Beer, Ale, and other

other Liquors, as formerly; but alſo, the Duties on Malt and Candles; Hops, Soap, and Leather; Coffee, Tea, and Chocolate; Starch, Powder, Spiritous Liquors, &c. all which are managed in ſeveral Claſſes.

The POST-OFFICE is kept in *Lombard-ſtreet*, in a large Houſe, formerly Sir *Robert Viner*'s; and is under an admirable Management.

The *Peny-poſt* is a Branch of it, and a moſt uſeful Addition to Trade and Buſineſs: for by it Letters are delivered at the remoteſt Corners of the Town, almoſt as ſoon as they could be ſent by a Meſſenger, and that from four, five, ſix, to eight times a Day, according as the Diſtance of the Place makes it practicable: inſomuch that you may ſend a Letter from *Limehouſe* in the Eaſt, to the fartheſt Part of *Weſtminſter*, for a Peny, ſeveral times in the ſame Day; and to the neighbouring Villages, as *Kenſington*, *Hamerſmith*, *Chiſwick*, &c. Weſtward; *Newington*, *Iſlington*, *Kentiſh-town*, *Hampſtead*, *Holloway*, *Highgate*, &c. Northward; to *Newington-butts*, *Camberwell*, &c. Southward; and *Stepney*, *Poplar*, *Bow*, *Stratford*, *Deptford*, *Greenwich*, &c. Eaſtward, once a Day.

Nor are you tied up to a ſingle Piece of Paper, as in the *General Poſt-office*; but any Packet under a Pound-weight, goes at the ſame Price.

The CUSTOM-HOUSE comes next to be mentioned. The *Long Room* is like an *Exchange* every Morning, and the Croud of People who appear there, and the Buſineſs they do, is not to be explained by Words. The whole Building is very convenient, but not like what it might or ought to have been; and moreover, the Quays thereabouts are ſo throng'd and crouded, that they are much too little for the Buſineſs continually carrying on there.

Between the Horſe-guards at *Whitehall* and *Charing-croſs*, at an huge Expence, but exceſſive bad Taſte,

Taſte, is built the ADMIRALTY-OFFICE. This Office is, perhaps, of the moſt Importance of any of the public Parts of the Adminiſtration; the Royal Navy being the Sinews of our Strength.

The NAVY-OFFICE, a neat and convenient Building in *Cruched-fryars*, and the VICTUALLING-OFFICE on *Tower-hill*, near *Eaſt Smithfield*, both which, had we room, deſerve a particular Deſcription, are but Branches of this Adminiſtration, and receive their Orders from hence; as do likewiſe the Docks and Yards theirs from the *Navy-office*; the Whole being carried on with the moſt exquiſite Order and Diſpatch. The *Admiralty* has been in Commiſſion ever ſince the Death of Prince *George* of *Denmark*. The Commiſſioners ſo often change by Deaths or Removals, that it will be of very little Uſe to inſert them in a Work like this.

Tho' his MAJESTY reſides all the Winter at *St. James*'s, yet the Buſineſs of the Government is chiefly carried on at the *Cockpit*, *Whitehall*; near which is lately finiſhed a magnificent Building, with a very grand Front looking to the Parade in *St. James*'s-*park*, for the TREASURY-OFFICE; and, it being a ſpacious Structure, over that where formerly was kept the OFFICE of the Secretary of State for *Scotland*, now aboliſhed, is the PLANTATION-OFFICE.

At the Horſe-guards is a Building commodious enough, built as a Barrack for a large Detachment of the Horſe-guards, who keep Poſt here: over it are Offices belonging to the Judge-advocate for holding Courts Martial for Tryal of Deſerters and others, according to the Articles of War.

A new Office and Houſe is lately erected, adjoining to the Horſe-guards, for the Paymaſter-general of the Army.

The BANK uſed to be kept in *Grocers-hall*, but is now removed to an intire new Edifice, built for that thriving

thriving Corporation in *Threadneedle-ſtreet*, adjoining to *St. Chriſtopher*'s Church.

The EAST INDIA HOUSE, ſituated where formerly was that of Sir *William Craven*, was rebuilt in the Year 1726. It is very convenient within, but, without, makes not the Appearance that is worthy of the Company's Trade and Figure in the World; its Front being not extended enough. In the Back-part towards *Lime-ſtreet*, they have alſo Warehouſes, which were rebuilt in a very handſome manner, *Anno* 1725.

The AFRICAN COMPANY'S HOUSE is in the ſame Street.

The SOUTH-SEA HOUSE is a new, but very bad Structure, ſituated on a large Spot of Ground between *Broad-ſtreet* and *Threadneedle-ſtreet*.

The YORK-BUILDINGS COMPANY have their Office in *Wincheſter-ſtreet*.

Here are alſo ſeveral great Offices for Societies of INSURERS, where almoſt all Hazards may be inſured. The four principal are called, 1. *The Royal Exchange Inſurance*, kept in a Part of the *Royal Exchange*. 2. *The Royal Inſurance*, kept in *Cornhill*. 3. *The Hand-in-hand Fire-office*, kept on *Snow-hill*. 4. *The Sun Fire-office*, in *Threadneedle-ſtreet*.

In the two firſt, all Hazards by Sea of Ships and Goods, not Lives, are inſured; as alſo, Houſes and Goods are inſured from Fire.

In the laſt two, only Houſes and Goods.

In all which Offices the *Premio* is ſo ſmall, and the Recovery, in caſe of Loſs, ſo eaſy and certain, that nothing can be ſhewn like it in the World.

There are alſo Offices of INSURANCE ON LIVES, the *Union Fire-office* in *Gutter-lane*, the *Weſtminſter Fire-office*, and others, which manage a great deal of Buſineſs in the ſame way.

The Offices of ORDNANCE, and the MINT for Coining Money, are kept in the Tower of *London*.

IV.

Of the moſt noted Edifices, Squares, and Public Structures, in and about London.

THAT beautiful Column, called the *Monument*, erected at the Charge of the City, to perpetuate the Memory of the fatal Burning of the Whole, cannot be mentioned but with ſome due Reſpect to the Building itſelf, as well as to the City. It is 202 Feet high, and exceeds all the Obeliſks and Pillars of the Antients: there is a Stair-caſe in the Middle, to aſcend to the Balcony, which is about 30 Feet ſhort of the Top, and whence there are other Steps made, even to look out at the Top of all, which is faſhioned like an Urn, with a Flame iſſuing from it.

The Lord Mayors of this famous Metropolis have been hitherto forced to content themſelves with reſiding in ſome one or other of the ſtately Halls of the City Companies, hired for that Purpoſe; an Inconvenience which was equally unworthy of the Grandeur of the great Officer, and of the City over which he preſided, and which now is in a Way to be remedied by an Houſe, called vulgarly the Manſion-houſe, built in the Place where *Stocks-market* uſed to be kept. But Connoiſſeurs find ſo many Faults with the Deſign, that if what they ſay is true, tho' it is a coſtly Building, yet will it not do any great Honour to this famous Metropolis.

The *Royal Exchange* is the greateſt Burſe in the World: 'tis ſaid, that it coſt above 80,000*l.* in building; and yet the Intereſt of the Money was a great while anſwered by the Rent made of the Shops and Vaults: but now the Trade that uſed to be carried on there, is diſperſed in other Places, that it cannot be ſuppoſed to do ſo. According to Architectural Cri-

Criticiſm, the Building has numerous Faults: the Turret is egregiouſly bad, tho' a very expenſive Part of the Structure.

The *College of Phyſicians* in *Warwick-lane* is a beautiful and magnificent Structure, of Brick and Stone; but built in a Place where all its Beauties are, in a manner, buried.

The *Surgeons* Theatre, in *Monkwell-ſtreet*, is a fine Piece of Architecture, admirably diſpoſed for Seeing and Hearing: it was the Work of the famous *Inigo Jones*.

In the Court of Aſſiſtants Room is a capital Picture of *Hans Holbein*, in which is the Portrait of King *Henry* VIII. ſitting in his Chair, delivering the Charter which he granted to the Surgeons.

This Theatre, on the late Separation of the Surgeons Company from the Barbers by Act of Parliament, with the Picture, and other Valuables, remains to the Barbers; and the Surgeons are, at this time, *Anno* 1748. actually erecting an Hall and Theatre in the *Old Bailey*, near *Ludgate*, for themſelves.

Thanet-houſe, in *Alderſgate-ſtreet*, built by *Inigo Jones*, is now let out to a Tavern, and other Trades, as unworthy of its Founder, as of its Architect.

The Palace of the Biſhop of *London* is over-againſt it: it is an old Building, and no otherwiſe remarkable, than that it is let out to Tradeſmen chiefly, and has not been, for a great while, the Reſidence of its Biſhop, who has a Country Palace at *Fulham*, where he generally reſides.

Several Acts of Parliament have paſſed, for building a new Bridge over the *Thames* at *Weſtminſter*. It was at firſt reſolved to be built at the *Horſe-ferry* over to *Lambeth*; but the Deſign was altered, and it is now built at the *Woolſtaple*, near *Palace-yard*, and carried to *Stangate* on the oppoſite Side. The Extent of this Bridge is 1220 Feet, the Abutments whereof, at each End,

End, are 113 Feet each; the Middle Arch is 76 Feet Diameter, and its two Piers are each 17 Feet thick: every other Arch, on each, leſſens 4 Feet, and the Piers 1 Foot each. There are 13 Arches, in all: ſo that the clear Space for the Water is 820 Feet. The Solids of the 12 Piers contain 400 Feet, beſides the two Abutments; the Breadth for Carriages, is 30 Feet; and for Foot-paſſengers, 7 Feet, on each Side.

Great Powers are given, by this Act, to Commiſſioners to agree with Perſons who own Houſes and Lands, on either Shore: and they have pulled down whole Streets about *Palace-yard*, and *Channing-row*, beſides what they are to do on the *Surry* Side, for the more commodious Paſſage to it.

I ſhall not take notice of the unhappy Failure of two of the Piers, juſt as the Paſſage over this noble Structure was ready to be opened; becauſe the Conſequence is not known, nor what Expence and Trouble the making good the Work will occaſion.

The *Mews*, near *Charing-Croſs*, where the King's Horſes are kept, and the Coaches of State ſet up, is a very large kind of Square; but the Buildings being old, and unworthy of the Situation, as well as of the Uſe, are, as 'tis ſaid, to be pulled down. The principal Range at the upper End is already finiſhed; and when the other Parts are completed, it will be one of the fineſt Things, of its kind, in *Enrope*.

Carlton-houſe, belonging to his Royal Highneſs the Prince, *Marlborough-houſe*, and *Buckingham-houſe*, all three in *St. James's-park*; the Duke of *Montagu*'s, and the Duke of *Richmond*'s, in the *Privy-garden*; *Devonſhire-houſe*, and the Earl of *Bath*'s, in *Piccadilly*; a new one building for the Earl of *Cheſterfield*, overlooking *Hyde park*; *Northumberland-houſe* in the *Strand*, belonging to the Duke of *Somerſet*; *Montagu-houſe*, however deſerted, at preſent, a moſt noble one,

and

and the Duke of *Bedford*'s, both in *Bloomsbury*; thoſe of Lord *Bateman*, of the Duke of *Queensberry*, of General *Wade*, of the late Lord *Bingley*, *Savile-row*; the Earl of *Granville*'s, Mr *Pelham*'s, and numberleſs others of the Nobility and firſt Gentry; together with the noble and extenſive Streets of Buildings about *Soho*, *Groſvenor*, *Cavendiſh*, *Berkley*, and *Hanover-ſquares*, with thoſe ſtately Squares themſelves; *St. James's-ſquare*, *Red-lion-ſquare*, *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, eſpecially as it is lately altered and adorned; the new Buildings about *Jockey-fields*, *Bedford-row*, *Queen's-ſquare*, and innumerable other Improvements; would take up too much of my Room to particularize: and I can therefore only name them.

But yet I cannot forbear particularly to mention one Beauty, becauſe it is an Honour to our Country; and that is the great Piazza in *Covent-garden*, the nobleſt Square in *Europe*, for Grandeur of the Deſign, eſpecially with the Beauty of the Eaſt Front of that elegant Church, the only Piece the Moderns have yet produced, that can admit of a juſt Compariſon with the Works of Antiquity; where a majeſtic Simplicity commands the Approbation of the Judicious. The ruſtic Arcade round the Square is of an excellent Compoſition, above which is a grand Story, and an Attic, and the Windows dreſſed with a regular Entablature.

I muſt but ſlightly mention, for the Reaſons already given, the new Road in *Hyde-park*, the Reſervoirs in the two Parks, the late Queen's Library, *&c.* which may juſt ſerve as a Hint to Travelers who have leſs upon their Hands than I have upon mine.

V.

Of the principal Hoſpitals, and other Charitable Inſtitutions, in and about the City of London.

NO City in the World can ſhew the like Number of private and public Charities, as the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*.

I have not Room particularly to deſcribe them, and muſt therefore content myſelf with giving little more than their Names, and thoſe of their munificent Founders; referring to thoſe larger Works where more ample Accounts and Deſcriptions may be expected.

1. then, I will mention *Bethlehem* Hoſpital in *Moorfields*, for the Reception of Lunatics, erected at the Charge of the City, *Anno* 1676.

2. *Bridewell* is as well an Houſe of Correction as an Hoſpital: it was formerly the King's City Palace, but given to the City by King *Edward* VI. for the reclaiming of idle Perſons, Vagrants, *&c.* and for bringing up Lads to handicraft Buſineſſes.

There are two other Houſes of Correction, call'd *Bridewells*, one at *Clerkenwell*, for *Middleſex*; the other in *Tothill-fields*, for *Weſtminſter*.

3. *Chriſt's-Hoſpital*, originally founded by King *Edward* VI. (at the Requeſt of the Lord-Mayor and Aldermen of *London*, and of the pious Martyr Dr. *Ridley*, then Biſhop of *London*) for entertaining, educating, nouriſhing, and bringing up the poor Children of the Citizens; ſuch as, their Parents (or Fathers, at leaſt) being dead, have no other way of Support.

This noble Charity maintains near 1000 poor Children, who have Food, Cloathing, and Inſtruction, uſeful and ſufficient Learning, and an exceeding good

Diſcipline

Diſcipline obſerved; and at the proper Ages they are put out to Trades ſuitable to their ſeveral Genius's and Capacities; and others are taught Mathematics, Navigation, and Arithmetic, to fit them for private and public Service. The ſeeing of theſe Children at Church on a *Sunday* at *Chriſt-Church*, and at Supper on *Sunday* Evening, was reckoned as fine a Sight as any in *London*, and occaſioned a conſtant Reſort of People of all Ranks; who uſed to admire the Neatneſs of their Appearance, and the good Management of the Houſe. Dependent on this noble Charity is alſo an Houſe at *Hertford*, where Diet, Schooling, *&c.* are given to the younger Boys.

4. *St. Bartholomew*'s Hoſpital adjoins to *Chriſt*'s Hoſpital: its firſt Foundation may be ſaid to be owing to King *Henry* VIII. whoſe Statue in Stone, very well done, is, for that Reaſon, erected in the new Front, over the Entrance in *Weſt-Smithfield*, with two Cripples, no mean Pieces of Sculpture, on the Top of the Pediment over his Head. This Hoſpital has received very great Additions of late Years, and they are going on building ſtill; and 'tis well if they do not overdo it; for they demoliſh their Houſes, and reduce their Eſtates, by it; and leave it upon the Generoſity of future Benefactors to ſupport what they are about.

This Hoſpital relieves about 600 Patients daily, with Lodging, Diet, Phyſic, and Surgery.

The *Lock* at *Kingſland*, and that in *Southwark*, belong to *St. Bartholomew*'s Hoſpital, and are uſed for ſuch as have the foul Diſeaſe only.

There generally are under the Care of this Hoſpital upwards of 5000 poor ſick and lame Perſons, deſtitute of other Relief.

5. *St. Thomas*'s Hoſpital in *Southwark* is alſo a noble Piece of Charity, of the like Nature with that of *St. Bartholomew*: the Church, and moſt of the Hoſpital,

was

was rebuilt in a beautiful manner, from the Year 1701. to 1706. it was founded by *Edward* VI. and Inſcriptions are ſet up in it to the Honour of Mr. *Guy*, Mr. *Frederick*, Sir *Robert Clayton*, the laſt of whom has his Statue there; as has King *Edward* VI. erected by *Charles Joy*, Eſq; late Treaſurer of this Hoſpital.

6. *Guy*'s Hoſpital is ſituated very near *St. Thomas*'s Hoſpital, and is, perhaps, one of the greateſt private Charities that was ever known. Its Founder, *Thomas Guy*, was a Bookſeller in *Lombard-ſtreet*; he lived to ſee this Work in great Forwardneſs, and at his Death, *Anno* 1724. left about 200,000*l.* to finiſh and endow it. Mr. *Guy*'s Statue is erected in the principal Square.

Tho' this Hoſpital is ſaid to be for Incurables, it is not for ſuch as are abſolutely ſo; for the Founder uſed to ſay, That he would not have his Hoſpital made an Alms-houſe.

Over and above the 200,000*l.* left to this Hoſpital, the Founder left as many Legacies, and other Diſpoſitions, as were computed to amount to near 150,000*l.* more.

7. The *London Workhouſe*, as it is called, founded on an Act of Parliament paſſed in the 13th Year of King *Charles* II. is ſituated without *Biſhopſgate*, and is an Edifice conſiſting of ſeveral Work-rooms and Lodging-rooms, for Vagrants and Pariſh-children.

They have an handſome Chapel built at the upper End of the Yard belonging to the Houſe, where they go to Prayers twice a Day, at Seven in the Morning, and Seven in the Evening. On *Sundays* they all go to *St. Helen*'s, where they have Seats.

The Charity-ſchools and Workhouſes ſet up in almoſt every Pariſh of this prodigious City, have in ſome meaſure purſued the Deſign of this laudable Workhouſe; and if they have thereby interfered with it,

it, and taken off ſome Benefactions that otherwiſe might have flowed into that Canal, it will be the leſs to be wondered at.

8. The Hoſpital called the *Charter-Houſe*, or *Sutton*'s Hoſpital, muſt be recorded to be the greateſt and nobleſt Gift that ever was given for Charity, by any one Man, public or private, in this Nation, ſince Hiſtory gives us any Account of Things; except we give a Preference to that of Mr. *Guy*; the Revenue of Mr. *Sutton*'s Hoſpital being, beſides the Purchaſe of the Place, and the Building of the Houſe, and other Expences, little leſs than 6000*l. per Ann.*

The Royal Hoſpitals of *Greenwich* and *Chelſea* are taken notice of in their proper Places.

The *Greycoat* and *Greencoat* Hoſpital in *Tothill-fields*, *Emanuel* Hoſpital, *Weſtminſter*; that for the Poor of the *French* Refugees, near *Iſlington*; the *Ironmongers* Alms-houſes, near *Shoreditch*; Alderman *Aske*'s at *Hoxton*; thoſe ſtately ones of the *Trinity-houſe*, the *Vintners*, and ſeveral others in the Way to *Mile-End*; as alſo thoſe handſome ones, lately erected by the Will of Mr. *Francis Bancroft*, a Lord Mayor's Officer, in the ſame Road, all deſerve particular Mention, had I Room for it.

But I muſt ſay a Word or two of thoſe uſeful Charities, the two Infirmaries, one in *James's-ſtreet*, *Weſtminſter*, and the other at *Hyde-park Corner*, which have given Birth to the like laudable Inſtitutions in other Parts of the Kingdom. The Deſign of them is, to ſupply the Places of the Hoſpitals of *St. Bartholomew* and *St. Thomas*'s aforementioned, there being no ſuch charitable Foundations in the City of *Weſtminſter*. And here the beſt Order is obſerved, the beſt Medicines diſpenſed, and the beſt Aſſiſtances given, as well by Phyſicians, as Surgeons and Apothecaries, to all who are admitted into theſe Charities. I ſhall refer you to the Accounts publiſhed by each

every Year, for further Particulars of their Inſtitutions, Progreſs, and Succeſs.

In *Auguſt* 1732. a Corporation was erected for the Relief of poor Officers Widows belonging to the Navy, which allots 45*l.* *per Ann.* to a Captain's Widow; 30*l.* to a Lieutenant's; and 20*l.* to the Widows of Boatſwains, Gunners, Carpenters, Purſers, Surgeons, Second Maſter of a Yacht, or Maſter of a Naval Veſſel, warranted by the Navy-board; provided the annual Incomes of their Real and Perſonal Eſtates do not amount to the aforeſaid yearly Sums. To this Charity all Admirals, Captains, Lieutenants, and Warrant-officers, pay 3*d.* *per* Pound out of their Salaries; and his Majeſty King *George* II. graciouſly contributed 10,000*l.* as a Foundation for it.

In the Year 1739. a moſt uſeful and long-wiſh'd-for Charity was eſtabliſhed by Royal Charter, in order to found an Hoſpital for the Maintenance and Education of expoſed and deſerted young Children, otherwiſe called Foundlings.

An Act of Parliament has paſſed for confirming and enlarging the Powers granted by this Charter; and a neat and convenient Hoſpital is actually built, for this good Purpoſe, on the North Side of *Ormond-ſtreet*. The Rules by which it is governed are extremely well adapted to the Intention of the Charity, and as well obſerved. Four principal Painters, *viz.* Mr. *Highmore*, Mr. *Hogarth*, Mr. *Hayman*, and Mr. *Willes*, have preſented each a Piece of Scripture on Subjects ſuitable to the Deſign; which are put up, and are very well worth the Attention of the Curious.

An Infirmary for poor People labouring under that terrible Malady the Small-Pox is alſo lately opened in *Tottenham-Court* Road.

The Corporation for Clergymens Sons deſerves alſo to be taken notice of, as an excellent Inſtitution; but we muſt draw to a Concluſion of this Article.

We

We ſhall only further obſerve, in general, That thoſe noble Foundations, added to the innumerable Alms-houſes, which are to be ſeen in almoſt every Part of *London*, make it certain, that there is no City in the World can ſhew the like Number of Charities from private Hands, there being not leſs than twenty thouſand People maintained of Charity, beſides the Charities of Schooling for Children, and beſides the Collections at the annual Feaſts of ſeveral Kinds, where Money is given for putting out Children Apprentices, *&c.* a great Number of which owe their Riſe to the Period of Time included in 40 Years paſt; ſo that the *Papiſts* have no Reaſon to boaſt, that there were greater Benefactions and Acts of Charity, to the Poor, given in their Days, than in our Proteſtant Times. And this is, indeed, one of the principal Reaſons for my making mention of it in this Place; for let any particular Age be ſingled out, and let the Charities of this Age, for about 40 Years paſt, and the Sums of Money beſtowed by Proteſtants in this Nation, on mere Acts of Charity to the Poor, not reckoning Gifts to the Church, be caſt up, it will appear they are greater, by far, than can be found in *England* in any the like Number of Years, take the Time when we will.

Nor do I include in this the Money collected by Briefs all over *England*, upon Caſualties by Fire, though that is as eminent an Act of Charity as any can be; nor the Money given either in public or private, for Rebuilding *St. Paul*'s and other Churches, demoliſhed by the Fire of *London*, or the Augmentation of poor Benefices by the Bounty of Queen *Anne*, and many other ſuch Gifts. But there is ſtill a Charity to be mentioned, which is newly ſet on foot, that may be of more public good Conſequence to this Kingdom, as a Maritim Power, than any yet eſtabliſhed; which I ſhall now take notice of.

Ample Proviſion having been made for Seamen worn out in the Royal Service, in the noble Hoſpital at *Greenwich*, and ſomething of the like Nature being much wanted for the Relief of that ſerviceable Body of Men who have ſpent their Labour, and loſt their Limbs and Lives, in that of the Merchants, as well as of their helpleſs Widows and Orphans, an Act was paſſed in the Seſſion of Parliament *Anno* 1747, intituled, *An Act for the Relief and Support of maimed and diſabled Seamen, and the Widows and Children of ſuch as ſhall be killed, ſlain, or drowned, in the Merchants Service*; whereby a Corporation is eſtabliſhed, of ſeveral conſiderable Merchants, by the Name of *The Preſident and Governors for the Relief and Support of ſick, maimed, and diſabled Seamen, and of the Widows and Children of ſuch as ſhall be killed, ſlain, or drowned, in the Merchants Service*, to purchaſe Lands for the Site of an Hoſpital, and to relieve all proper Objects of the Charity of their Countrymen, on producing Certificates of their Merits and Sufferings. Every Perſon contributing 50 *l.* is, *ipſo facto*, a Governor: And for effecting the good Ends and Purpoſes intended, all Seamen ſerving on board the Merchant-Ships of any of his Majeſty's Subjects in *England*, are to pay 6 *d. per* Month, in order to be intitled to the Benefits of this Act. The Merchant-Venturers of the City of *Briſtol*, and the Guild or Brotherhood of Maſters, Seamen of the Trinity-houſe of the Town and Port of *Kingſton upon Hull*, are included within the Purpoſes of this Act, with reſpect to the poor Mariners belonging to each of thoſe Places. Thoſe in the Service of the *Eaſt India Company*, only, are excluded any Benefit from hence, being already ſufficiently provided for by their reſpective Maſters.

VI. *Of*

VI.

Of the Churches of London, Weſtminſter, *and* Southwark.

THERE are within the Walls of *London*, 97 Pariſhes; without the Walls, 17; in the Out-Pariſhes in *Middleſex* and *Surry*, in the Bills of Mortality, 21; and in the City and Liberty of *Weſtminſter*, 10; in all, 145. We ſhall, as briefly as poſſible, touch upon the moſt remarkable Churches.

We muſt obſerve, in the firſt Place, That the Churches in *London* are rather convenient than fine, not adorn'd with Pomp and Pageantry, as in *Popiſh* Countries; but, like the true Proteſtant Plainneſs, have very little Ornament either within or without.

But the moſt famous of all the Churches in the City, and of all the Proteſtant Churches in the World, is the Cathedral of *St. Paul*; an Edifice exceedingly beautiful and magnificent, with the feweſt Faults of any Building of the like Nature and Extent; tho' its Dreſs is at this time a little out of Faſhion. Some, who would be thought to have Skill in Architecture, are pleaſed to cenſure it for its Heavineſs; but that Objection, upon due Conſideration, will appear ill-founded.

The vaſt Extent of the horizontal Arch of the Cupola, which ſupports a Stone Lantern near 70 Feet high, may well account for the Strength of the eight Piers which ſupport the Whole of that prodigious Weight. And tho' common Obſervers aſſert, that thoſe, as well as the Piers of the all Arches withinſide, are too thick and heavy, yet, whoever knows any thing of the Rules of Architecture, muſt allow them to be as ſlender as the Strictneſs of thoſe Rules would admit of; for the Thickneſs of each Pier is not one

Third Part of the Void of each Arch. And thoſe which ſupport the Dome, when compar'd with thoſe that ſupport the Cupola of *St. Peter*'s at *Rome*, come out to be but one Third Part of the Bigneſs of the latter, the one meaſuring 240 Feet in Circumference, the other not quite 80; yet the Difference in the Dimenſions and Weight of the Two Cupolas is nothing in Proportion to theſe Piers; and, upon the Whole, *St. Paul*'s is much leſs liable to the Objection for being heavy than *St. Peter*'s.

Indeed *Gothic* Architecture, which is more familiar to ſome Perſons than the other, admits of an extravagant Airineſs and Lightneſs. In that ſort of Building the Deſigner is bound down to no Rules of Proportion but what his own Fancy ſuggeſts; whereas, in the other, Dimenſions, ſo univerſally followed, cannot be deviated from. The Height of every Arch hath a fix'd Proportion to its Breadth; the Doors, Windows, and their Ornaments, have the ſame; the Intercolumniations, and their Intablatures, are all confin'd to certain Admeaſurements. But where is that Exactneſs obſerved in any *Gothic* Structure? It muſt be allowed there are ſome of thoſe Buildings, that, in the Whole, look very auguſt and venerable. Yet, let any one view the vaſt Buttreſſes round the Outſide of *Weſtminſter-Abbey*, and ſee what a Croud of Lines and Breaks they occaſion in the Perſpective, and they will then eaſily account for the Lightneſs of the Inſide of that Church; for thoſe Buttreſſes, by extending ſo far out, ſupport the whole Structure, more than its Walls or Pillars. This is mentioned for the ſake of common Obſervers only; for to the Judicious it is altogether unneceſſary.

Sir *Chriſtopher Wren* had the Satisfaction to find his Work approved by the beſt Maſters in *Europe*, who allowed, That the Church of *St. Peter*'s at *Rome*, which is the moſt ſtupendous Structure in the World,

World, only exceeds *St. Paul*'s with reſpect to its huge Dimenſions, its rich moſaic Work, the beautiful Marble, of which both its Outſide and Inſide intirely conſiſt, the latter in different Colours, its Statues, Paintings, Gildings, Altars, and Oratories.

Had the Inſide of *St. Paul*'s been adorned in the like profuſe and pompous Manner, it would have attracted the Admiration of ſuperficial Critics, ſo that they would never have been able to diſcover the Faults which they can only attribute to the Plainneſs of its Materials. But Harmony, Proportion, and Beauty, are the ſame, whether the Building is executed in Stone, or the moſt beautiful Marble; whether the Carvings or Mouldings be gilt or not; the Receſſes or Panels in the Walls be curiouſly painted, or plain.

In the Year 1707. the Houſe of Commons had it under Conſideration, whether the Cupola ſhould be covered with * Copper or Lead; and upon Inquiry into which was moſt expedient and leaſt expenſive, it appeared that the Covering of Lead would amount to about 170 Tons, and the Expence thereof, including Workmanſhip, was eſtimated at 2500 *l.*

The Copper Covering was computed at eleven Tons, three hundred three quarters and odd Pounds; and the Expence was eſtimated at 3050 *l.* Upon which the Houſe fixed upon a Copper Covering.

But when the Bill, which had a Clauſe in it for that Purpoſe, went up to the Lords, their Lordſhips left out the Clauſe; upon which the Commons deſired a Conference, alleging, that Copper was preferable to any other Covering, as well in reſpect of Duration as Lightneſs; for that Lead being ſubject to frequent Repairs, the neceſſary Scaffolding for that Purpoſe, at any one time, would exceed the Difference of Charge between that and Copper:

* This is an authentic Account of the Matter.

beſides, that frequent Scaffolding would very much prejudice the Building. But the Seſſions cloſing the ſame Day, put an End to the Affair, and there were no Conferences; tho' the preceding Reaſons were what the Commons intended to offer, if there had been one.

It very probably was upon this Occaſion, that Sir *Chriſtopher* is ſaid to have declared his Opinion, when ſome Gentlemen doubted whether the Cupola would bear the Leaden Covering, that it was able to bear 7000 Tons more than what is now upon it; and that he would undertake to raiſe a Spire of Stone upon the Whole, 100 Feet higher than the Croſs now ſtands.

The Expence of this magnificent Structure, as it was laid before the Parliament *Anno* 1711. including the Building of the Chapter-houſe near it, purchaſing of Property, together with the Eſtimate of what was neceſſary to complete the Whole, in which was included a Ring of twelve Bells, not yet put up, nor caſt, as alſo the Furniture for the Choir, amounted to 810,380 *l.* 4 *s.*

Theſe Things, that were not ſo eaſy for every one to know, we have thought it neceſſary to enlarge upon. Our Bounds will not permit us to ſay all that the Subject requires, and we would not dwell upon Points which every one knows, or may eaſily inform himſelf of by his own Obſervation, or from other Writers, in relation to this famous Structure.

But one Thing it will be requiſite to obſerve further, which every one does not know, and which thereſpre I ſhall mention.

This able Architect, Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*, at the firſt ſetting about the Church, would have had its Situation removed a little to the North, to ſtand juſt on the Spot of Ground which is taken up by *Pater-noſter Row*, and the Buildings on either Side; ſo that the North-ſide of the Church ſhould have ſtood open to

Newgate-

Newgate-ſtreet, and the South-ſide to the Ground on which the Church now ſtands.

By this Situation, the Eaſt-end of the Church, would have looked directly down the main Street of the City, *Cheapſide* ; and for the Weſt-end, *Ludgate* having been removed a little North, the main Street called *Ludgate-ſtreet*, and *Ludgate-hill*, would only have ſloped a little W. S. W. as they do now irregularly Two Ways, one within, and the other without the Gate, and all the Street beyond *Fleet-bridge* would have received no Alteration at all.

By this Situation, the common Thorough-fare of the City would have been removed at a little farther Diſtance from the Work, and we ſhould not then have been obliged to walk juſt under the very Wall, as we do now, which makes the Work appear out of all Perſpective, and is the chief Reaſon of the Objections I have mentioned, as to the outſide Appearance ; whereas, had it been viewed at a little Diſtance, the Building would have been ſeen infinitely to more Advantage.

Had Sir *Chriſtopher* been allowed this Situation, he would then, alſo, have had more room for the Ornament of the Weſt-end, which, tho' a moſt beautiful Work, would then have been much more ſo; and he would have added a circular Piazza to it, after the Model of that of *Rome*, but much more magnificent, and an Obeliſk of Marble in the Centre of the Circle, exceeding any thing that the World can ſhew of its Kind, of modern Work.

But the Circumſtance of Things hindered this noble Deſign ; and the City being almoſt rebuilt before he obtained an Order and Proviſion for laying the Foundation, he was preſcribed to the narrow Spot where it now ſtands, in which the Building, however magnificent in itſelf, ſtands with great Diſadvantage as to the Proſpect of it. The Inconvenien-

cies of this were ſo apparent when the Church was finiſh'd, that Leave was at length, tho' not without Difficulty, obtain'd, to pull down one whole Row of Houſes on the North-ſide of the Body of the Church, to make Way for the noble Baluſtrade of caſt Iron, raiſed upon an handſome Stone Wall of above a Yard high, that ſurrounds the Church-yard; and, indeed, to admit Light into the Church, as well as to preſerve it from the Danger of Fire.

That admirable Architect met with no better Succeſs in a Plan which was one of the moſt beautiful that could enter the Mind of Man, and would have made this City the nobleſt on Earth: this I ſhall relate in the Words of a certain Author; *viz.*

" The Fire of *London* furniſhed the moſt perfect " Occaſion that can ever happen in any City, to re- " build it with Pomp and Regularity. This Sir *Chri-* " *ſtopher Wren* foreſaw, and, 'tis ſaid, offered a " Scheme which would have made it the Wonder of " the World. He propoſed to have laid out one " large Street from *Aldgate* to *Temple-Bar*; in the " middle of which was to have been a large Square, " capable of containing the new Church of *St. Paul's*, " with a proper Diſtance for the View all round; " whereby that huge Building would not have been " cooped up, as 'tis at preſent, in ſuch a manner, as " no-where to be ſeen to Advantage at all; but " would have had a long and ample Viſta at each " End, to have reconcil'd it to a proper Point of " View, and give it one great Benefit, which, in all " Probability, it muſt now want for ever. He far- " ther propoſed to rebuild all the Pariſh-churches in " ſuch a Manner, as to be ſeen at the End of every " Viſta of Houſes, and diſperſed in ſuch Diſtances " from each other, as to appear neither too thick, " nor thin in Proſpect, and give a proper Heighten- " ing to the whole Bulk of the City, as it filled the

" Landſchape.

" Landſchape. Laſtly, he propoſed to build all the " Houſes uniform, and ſupported on a Piazza, like " that of *Covent-Garden*: and by the Water-ſide, " from the Bridge to the *Temple*, he had planned a " long and broad Wharf, or Quay, where he de- " ſigned to have ranged all the Halls that belong to " the ſeveral Companies of the City, with proper " Warehouſes for Merchants between, to vary the " Edifices, and make it at once one of the moſt " beautiful and moſt uſeful Ranges of Structure in " the World. But the Hurry of Rebuilding, and " the Diſputes of Property, prevented this glorious " Scheme from taking Place."

When this great Man found he could not carry this Point, he propoſed what we have already mention'd; but, as we have obſerv'd, with as little Succeſs as the above grand Scheme; private Property, on this Occaſion, as it does on moſt others, getting the better both of public Utility and public Spirit.

Of the other Churches, the moſt remarkable are *Covent-Garden*; the Churches of *St. Mary le Bow*, and *St. Bride*'s; the two latter for having the fineſt Steeples in the World; eſpeciall *Bow*. The Inſide of the Church of *St. Stephen Walbroke* is admired all over *Europe*. The Contrivance and Beauty of other Churches, conſidering how they were obliged, unavoidably, to be thruſt up in Corners and odd Angles, is amazingly fine.

The new Churches at *Lime-houſe*, *Ratcliffe-highway*, *Spital-fields*, *Old-ſtreet*, the *Strand*, *Ormond-ſtreet*, *Hanover-ſquare*, the *Horſe-ferry*, *St. Mary Woolnoth*, *Biſhopſgate*, *St. Leonard Shoreditch*, *St. Catharine Coleman*, *St. Martin*'s in the Fields, *St. Giles*'s, and that in *Bloomſbury*, I can only mention. But the latter, I muſt obſerve, was the firſt Building, wherein was introduced a Portico after the Manner of the antient Temples. The Body of the Church

is a maſterly Performance; but the placing, for a Weather-cock, the Statue of a Prince, famous for good Senſe and Steadineſs, is an Abſurdity peculiar to the Church of *Bloomſbury*.

That incomparable Piece, called *The Banqueting-houſe* at *Whitehall*, is now made uſe of as a Chapel. This was the Deſign of *Inigo Jones*, as one Pavilion for that admirable Model he gave for a Palace. And if this Specimen has juſtly commanded the Admiration of Mankind, what muſt the finiſh'd Piece have done! It is to be hoped *Britain* will one Day have the Glory to accompliſh it, according to this Plan, and then it will far exceed all the Palaces of the Univerſe. Here is Strength with Politeneſs, Ornament with Simplicity, and Beauty with Majeſty. It is without Diſpute one of the nobleſt Structures in the World. The Cieling is an admirable fine Piece of Painting by *Rubens*.

The Abbey, or Collegiate Church of *Weſtminſter*, is a venerable old Pile of Building; but now appears with a new Face; for two Towers are actually finiſhed at the Weſt-end. The Beginning of a fine and coſtly Spire was alſo laid ſome time ago, near the Middle of the Edifice, although it is yet uncertain whether it will be proceeded on or not. The Weſt Window, fronting theſe Towers, is one of the moſt beautiful, in Glaſs-Painting that has been done of late Years; and the Window alſo fronting *Kingſtreet*, finiſhed in the Deanry of the late Biſhop *Atterbury*, is one of the fineſt modern Performances of its kind.

The Houſes adjoining to the North-ſide of this venerable Pile, are all, ſince the laſt Edition of this Work, pulled down; and the Building is railed in with Iron Rails, from the Projection of the North Croſs. And it is hoped that ſome other Houſes, which join to King *Henry* VII.'s Chapel, and may,

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in caſe of accidental Fire, endanger the Whole, will, with all convenient Speed, be likewiſe demoliſhed. We may ſay, that every Individual of the Community has an Intereſt in a Public Building; and it were pity that ſuch noble Edifices, through private Avarice or Convenience, ſhould lie at the Mercy of a careleſs, or perhaps a ſottiſh Servant. Some of the Money given by Parliament, in ſeveral Seſſions, to adorn and repair the Whole, would have been well laid out to purchaſe ſuch Houſes, as, demoliſhed, would tend to preſerve the Whole.

This Building, however, tho' very expenſive, is far leſs elegant than ſeveral other *Gothic* Structures. Its Outſide can never be made beautiful; and within, it is extravagantly out of Proportion, with regard to the Height and Breadth of the middle Nef and Side-Iſles. The high Altar withinſide is a noble Piece, and had a wonderful fine Effect from the Weſt Door, before the Organ, lately erected, intercepted its View.

The Towers at the Weſt-end, which I have juſt mention'd, as they ſtand ſo cloſe together, are not ſufficiently contracted in the carrying them up. The Four Pinacles look wretchedly bad, when viewed in a Diagonal Line. The Style of the Building, ſo far as is intire new Work, is a ſort of Medley, neither *Gothic*, nor any thing elſe; and is exceſſive heavy. As ſo many beautiful Structures of this kind are to be ſeen, it is amazing, that any Architect ſhould be above imitating them, when, it is plain, he cannot equal, much leſs excel them.

This Abbey is the Repoſitory of the deceas'd *Britiſh* Kings and Nobility, and very fine Monuments are ſeen over the Graves of our antient Sovereigns: the Particulars are too long to enter into here.

The Monarchs of *Great Britain* are likewiſe always crown'd here.

The Churches in *Southwark* are as follow:

1. The Church of *St. Mary*, vulgarly called *St. Mary Overy*, and *St. Saviour* in *Southwark*. It is a venerable *Gothic* Pile; having three Iſles running from Eaſt to Weſt, and a Croſs-Iſle after the Manner of a Cathedral.

2. The Church of *St. George Southwark*, is new-built, with a very mean Steeple.

3. *St. Thomas*'s is a neat and convenient Building.

4. *St. Olave*'s is alſo new-built.

5. *St. John*'s, vulgarly call'd *Horſley-down* Church, is one of the Fifty new ones.

6. The Church of *St. Mary Magdalen Bermondſey* is a neat Structure.

7. *Chriſt-Church* is new-built; as is alſo,

8. *Rotherhith-Church*.

Among the many Rings of Bells in theſe Churches, the moſt muſical are *St. Martin*'s, *St. Bride*'s, *St. Michael*'s *Cornhill*, and *St. Mary Overy*'s, twelve each; *St. Magnus*'s *London-Bridge*, and *St. Giles*'s *Cripple-gate*, ten each; *Spitalfields*, and *St. Laurence*'s, eight each.

And of the ſeveral Organs, the two fineſt are in *St. Paul*'s and the *Temple* Church.

VII.

Of St. James's *Palace, the* Parliament-Houſe, Weſtminſter-Hall, *&c.*

THE Palace of *St. James*'s, tho' the Winter Receptacle of all the Pomp and Glory of this Kingdom, is really mean, in Compariſon of the glorious Court of *Great Britain*. The Splendor of the Nobility, the Wealth and Greatneſs of the Attendants, the Oeconomy of the Houſe, and the real Grandeur of the whole Royal Family, outdoes all the Courts of *Europe*; and yet this Palace comes beneath thoſe

of

of the moſt petty Princes in it; altho' there cannot be in the World a nobler Situation for a Royal Palace than *Whitehall*. And it is with ſome Concern, that we ſee ſo fine a Spot become a Sacrifice to private Spirit, ſo much of it being given away to particular Families, as makes more remote, than we might otherwiſe expect it to be, the Hope we might juſtly have entertained, of ſeeing a Palace built there, worthy of the Glory of our Monarchs.

Many Plans have been drawn for the rebuilding of this Palace; but the moſt celebrated Draughts are thoſe of *Inigo Jones*, and may be ſeen in Mr. *Campbell*'s *Vitruvius Britannicus*, and Mr. *Kent*'s Edition of *Jones*'s Works. The laſt of theſe, if executed, would, for Magnificence and Beauty, tranſcend even the Temple of *Solomon*, if we are to form a Judgment from the Plans given of that famous Edifice. But 'tis a queſtion whether the Expence would not exceed that of *St. Peter*'s at *Rome*, which coſt Forty Millions of *Roman* Crowns.

As the Court is now ſtated, all the Offices and Places for Buſineſs are ſcatter'd about, here and there.

The Parliament meets, as they uſed to do while the Court was at *Weſtminſter*, in the King's old Palace; nor can it be ſaid but the Place is made tolerably convenient for them. The Houſe of Commons meet in the Chapel of the Palace at *Weſtminſter*, dedicated to St. *Stephen*, and fitted for this Purpoſe by that admirable Architect Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*.

The Houſe of Lords is a venerable old Place, tho' it muſt be ſaid to be much ſtreightened in the ſeveral Avenues to it, and Rooms above it; and particularly the matted Gallery, the Lobby, the back Ways the King goes to it, are very ſhort of the requiſite Dignity or Convenience of the Place, and of the Glory of a King of *Great Britain*, who there meets the Peers

and

and Commons of his Realm, who, together, conſtitute the moſt auguſt Aſſembly in the World.

Weſtminſter-Hall, a very noble *Gothic* Building, in which are held the Courts of Juſtice, is ſaid to be the largeſt Room in the World, being 220 Feet long, and 70 Feet broad. Its Roof is the fineſt of its Kind that can be ſeen. Here is held the Coronation-Feaſt of the Kings and Queens of *England*; alſo the Courts of Chancery, King's Bench, and Common Pleas; and above Stairs, that of the Exchequer. But it muſt be confeſs'd, that it makes no very advantageous Appearance without, reſembling, at a Diſtance, a great Barn, of 300 Feet long.

Adjoining to the Hall are kept the numerous Offices belonging to the Exchequer of *England*, ſome of them very dark and inconvenient, and ſuch as to a Stranger would afford no very remote Idea (particularly in ſome of the Avenues from Office to Office) of the diſmal Manſions to which Money-Tranſactions are thought often to bring the devoted Subjects of *Plutus*.

VIII.

Of the Statues and other public Ornaments in and about the Cities of London *and* Weſtminſter.

THIS Article we inſert rather for the ſake of the Number of the Statues, *&c.* than their Excellency; tho' ſome of them muſt be allowed to be very valuable.

The Braſs Statue of K. *James* II. in the Habit of a *Roman Cæſar*, in the *Privy-Garden* at *Whitehall*, is a very beautiful one, and can hardly be outdone by any modern Performance of that Kind in *Europe*.

A fine Braſs Buſt of King *Charles* I. done by *Panini*, a famous *Italian* Maſter of Sculpture, is placed over the Paſſage at the upper End of *Weſtminſter-Hall*,

Hall, adjoining to the Court of King's Bench, which, tho' little obſerved, is very curious.

The Statue in Braſs of King *Charles* I. on Horſe-back, at *Charing-Croſs*, is a curious Piece, tho' not perfect according to the Notion of ſome Critics.

At *Somerſet-Houſe*, on the South Front, in a Niche, *Apollo*, finely done in Marble, with a Bow, Arrows and Dogs; a neat Figure in Braſs of a *Cleopatra*, with her Aſps invironing one Arm, and fix'd on her Breaſt.

At *Temple-Bar*, *Anne*, Queen to King *James* I. finely cut in a Niche: alſo King *James* I. *Charles* I. and *Charles* II. in other Niches.

At *St. Paul's*, the Figures of the *Apoſtles* and *Evangeliſts*, on the Weſt, North, and South Fronts; and in the Middle of the Area, the Statue of her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, at full Length, crown'd, with a Sceptre in one Hand, and a Globe in the other, round the Pedeſtal of which, are the Figures of *Britannia*, *France* in a penſive Attitude, *Ireland*, and *America*: alſo St. *Paul*, with a Group of other Figures expreſſing his Converſion, finely done in Alto-Relievo, over the Door in the Weſt Front.

On the Front of the Hall of the *College of Phyſicians*, toward the Court, is a Statue of K. *Charles* II. well cut in Stone. On the Weſt-ſide of the Theatre is alſo the Statue of Sir *John Cutler*, carv'd in Stone. A fine Buſto of Dr. *Harvey*, who firſt diſcovered the Circulation of the Blood, is alſo newly erected in the Front of the Hall, at the Expence of Dr. *Richard Mead*.

In the Front of *St. Bartholomew's Hoſpital*, next *Smithfield*, which is a very handſome Gate-way, is a Statue of K. *Henry* VIII. done in a very good Taſte.

In *Alderſgate*, King *James* I. on Horſeback, well carv'd in *Alto-Relievo*: alſo the Prophets *Samuel* and *Jeremiah*.

On

On *Newgate*, in both Fronts, are the Figures of *Juſtice*, *Liberty*, *Mercy*, *Peace*, *Plenty*, and *Truth*.

In *Mercers-Chapel*, in the Front, *Charity*, and her *Three Children*.

In *Clothworkers-Hall*, are curious Figures of King *James* I. and King *Charles* I.

At the Chapel by *Guildhall*, the Statues of King *Edward* VI. Q. *Elizabeth*, with a *Phœnix* under her, and K. *Charles* I. treading upon a Globe, *&c.*

In the *Royal Exchange*, the Statues of *Edward* I. *Edward* III. *Henry* V. *Henry* VI. *Edward* IV. *Edward* V. *Henry* VII. *Henry* VIII. *Edward* VI. Q. *Mary* I. Q. *Elizabeth*, K. *James* I. K. *Charles* I. K. *Charles* II. K. *James* II. K. *William* III. and Q. *Mary* II. Q. *Anne*, K. *George* I. and K. *George* II. Alſo on the South-ſide are two fine Statues of K. *Charles* I. and King *Charles* II. A Statue of King *Charles* II. in a *Roman* Habit, in the Centre of the Area, is a very noble Performance. Alſo a Statue of Sir *Thomas Greſham*; and now, very lately, another erected near it, in Honour of Sir *John Barnard*, one of the worthieſt and ableſt Repreſentatives that ever the City of *London* ſent to Parliament. But if they were the fineſt in the World (as they certainly are not) the Place where they are fixed, would conceal their Beauty, and they might as well be placed in a Cellar.

The two Figures over the Gate of *Bethlehem Hoſpital*, one repreſenting a Perſon melancholy mad, the other one raving, are inimitable Performances, by Mr. *Cibber*, Father of the Laureat.

In *St. Thomas's Hoſpital*, *Southwark*, a Statue of Sir *Robert Clayton*, in Marble; another in Braſs of King *Edward* VI.

In Mr. *Guy*'s Hoſpital, a Statue in Braſs of that Gentleman.

On the South-ſide of the Seſſions-houſe in *South-*

wark,

wark, is a fine Stone Statue of King *James* II. in his Royal Habiliments.

A good Statue of King *Charles* II. in Braſs, in a *Roman* Habit, is in the Quadrangle before *Chelſea College*.

In the public Office of the Bank is a curious Marble Statue of K. *William* III. their Royal Founder, with an Inſcription to his Honour.

The noble Collections made by ſeveral of our *Engliſh* Nobility and Gentry, from abroad, would afford a curious Article in this Place; but our Deſign is to give an Account of Things, as they are, in and about this great City.

IX.

Of the Gates of London *and* Weſtminſter.

THE Gates of the City of *London* are ſeven, beſides Poſterns.

Ludgate is a Priſon for Debt, for Freemen of the City only.

Newgate is a Priſon for Criminals, both in *London* and *Middleſex*, and for Debtors alſo for *Middleſex*, being the County Gaol.

Moregate is a very beautiful Gateway, the Arch being near Twenty Feet high, which was done to give room for the City Train'd Bands to go through to the *Artillery-Ground*, where they muſter, and that they might march with their Pikes advanced; for then they had Pikemen in every Regiment, as well in the Army as in the Militia, which, ſince that, is quite left off.

Cripplegate is very old, and makes but a mean Figure.

Biſhopſgate is newly rebuilt, but not with the leaſt Elegance.

Alderſgate and *Aldgate* both make a very handſome Appearance.

Moſt

Moſt of theſe Gates are given by the City to the chief Officers to live in, and are convenient Dwellings.

Temple-Bar is the only Gate which is erected at the Extent of the City-Liberties; and this was occaſioned by ſome needful Ceremonies, as at the Proclaiming any King or Queen of *England*, at which time the Gates are ſhut. The Herald at Arms knocks hard at the Door; the Sheriffs of the City call back, aſking, Who is there? Then the Herald anſwers, *I come to proclaim*, &c. according to the Name of the Prince who is to ſucceed to the Crown, and repeating the Titles of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, &c. at which the Sheriffs open, and bid them welcome; and ſo they go on to the *Exchange*, where they make the laſt Proclamation.

There was formerly another Gate belonging to the City of *London*, called the *Poſtern-Gate* at *Tower-Hill*; but, being partly demoliſh'd by Time, it is now turned into private Buildings.

Weſtminſter had no leſs than Five Gates, and all within a ſmall Compaſs of Ground; as, firſt, The noble *Gothic* Gate at *Whitehall*, which is left ſtanding for the Beauty of its Workmanſhip. Secondly, a Gate a little farther, where *Kingſtreet* begins, which was a good old Structure, and pull'd down a few Years ago to inlarge the Paſſage. Thirdly, a Gate where now *Union-ſtreet* is, communicating *Kingſtreet* with the *New Palace-yard*. This has been ſeveral Years demoliſhed, and the ſaid little Street built where it ſtood. Fourthly, a Gate leading from *New Palace-yard* to *St. Margaret's-lane*; which has been lately demoliſhed, to inlarge that Paſſage, by which the King goes to the Houſe of Lords. Fifthly, the *Gate-houſe*, near the Weſt-end of the Abbey; which is an old Building, uſed for the public Gaol of the City of *Weſtminſter*.

To

To theſe we we may alſo add, the *Water-gate* at *Weſtminſter*, in *New Palace-yard*, near which the new Bridge is erected.

X.

Of the Markets of London.

AMONG theſe, that of *Smithfield* for Cattle is, without queſtion, the greateſt in the World: no Calculation of the Numbers of Horſes, Oxen, Cows, Calves, Sheep, *&c.* can be made. This Market is held every *Monday* and *Friday*.

There is alſo a great Market, or rather Fair, for Horſes, in *Smithfield*, every *Friday* in the Afternoon, where very great Numbers of Horſes, and thoſe of the higheſt Price, are ſold weekly.

The Fleſh-markets are *Leaden-hall*, *Honey-lane*, *Newgate*, *Clare*, *Shadwell*, *Southwark*, *Weſtminſter*, *Spitalfields*, *Whitechapel*, *Brook*, *Bloomſbury*, *Newport*, *St. James's*, *Carnaby*, *Hungerford*; and now lately the new Market at *Fleet-ditch*: as alſo another, for which a Patent was granted, *May* 1740. to be held on *Monday*, *Wedneſday*, and *Friday*, weekly, at *Brook-field* by *May-fair*, in the Pariſh of *St. George Hanover-ſquare*, for Meat, Herbage, *&c.*

At all theſe Markets, a Part is ſet by for a *Fiſh-market*, and a Part for an *Herb-market*; notwithſtanding which, there are the following particular Fiſh and Herb-markets, *viz.*

Fiſh-markets at *Billinſgate*, *Fiſhſtreet-hill*, and *Old Fiſhſtreet*.

Herb-markets, *Covent-Garden*, and till within this little while *Stocks-market*, which is removed to the new one at *Fleet-ditch*, to make room for a Manſion-houſe for the Lord Mayor of this City.

Stocks-market, when it was in being, was the moſt conſiderable, for all ſorts of eſculent Herbs in the World. It may not be amiſs to take notice here of a com-

a common received Opinion; *viz.* that the Inhabitants of moſt of the other Nations in *Europe* live more on Herbs than the *Engliſh*, which is certainly a great Miſtake; for, if any Judgment can be formed from the Quantities ſold in the public Markets, the *Engliſh* conſume much more than any other Country; for, by comparing the Quantity ſold in one Day in any of the Markets abroad, with what has been ſold in *Stocks-market* only, it has been found, upon near Inſpection for a Month, in the beſt Time of the Year, that more Garden-ſtuff has been ſold in each Day, than in ſeven of the greateſt Markets in *Europe*; and yet there are the following Markets in *London* and the Suburbs, where great Quantities are ſold by Wholeſale; *viz. Newgate-market*, *Whitechapel*, *Covent-garden*, *Hungerford*, and the *Borough* in *Southwark*. The conſtant Market-days in theſe Markets are three times every Week the whole Year; but, in the Summer-ſeaſon, the Gardeners make ſix Market-days in a Week, whereby the Inhabitants have a freſh Supply every Day, a Conveniency which none of the Markets abroad have.

At the *Three Cranes*, are alſo Markets for Cherries, Apples, and other Fruits.

Corn-markets are at *Bear-quay* and *Queenhith*.

Meal-markets, at *Queenhith*, *Hungerford*, *Ditch-ſide*, and *Whitecroſs-ſtreet*.

Hay-markets, at *Whitechapel*, *Smithfield*, *Southwark*, the *Hay-market-ſtreet*, *Weſtminſter*, and *Bloomſbury*.

A new Market is obtained lately near *Groſvenor-ſquare*.

Leather-market, at *Leaden-hall*.

Hides and Skins, at *Leaden-hall*, and *Wood's-cloſe*.

Coal-markets, at *Rome-land*, and *Billinſgate*.

Bay-market, at *Leaden-hall*.

Broad-cloth-market, at *Blackwell-hall*.

The

The laſt Three are, without Doubt, the greateſt in the World of thoſe Kinds. —— There are moreover Multitudes of Coal-merchants, who have Coal-wharfs, from the *Hermitage* one Way, to the *Horſe-ferry* and *Weſtminſter* another, which may be deemed ſo many Markets, tho' not public ones.

Theſe Markets are ſo conſiderable in themſelves, that they merit a larger and more particular Deſcription, than I have room for. I ſhall, however, briefly obſerve of them, That of the fifteen Fleſh-markets for Proviſions, Seven are of antient Standing; but the others are erected ſince the Increaſe of the City. The old ones are, *Leaden-hall*, *Whitechapel*, *Newgate-market*, *Southwark*, *Clare*, *St. James*'s, and *Weſtminſter*, to which ſome add *Honey-lane*; and theſe are ſo conſiderable, have ſuch Numbers of Buyers, and ſuch an infinite Quantity of Proviſions of all Sorts, Fleſh, Fiſh, and Fowl, that, eſpecially with regard to *Leaden-hall*, no City in the World can equal them.

The great Market called *Leaden-hall* (of which a certain *Spaniſh* Embaſſador ſaid, There was as much Meat ſold in it in one Month, as would ſuffice all *Spain* for a Year) contains Three large Squares, every Square having ſeveral Outlets into divers Streets, and all into one another. The firſt, and chief, is called the *Beef-market*, which has two large Gates, one into *Leaden-hall-ſtreet*, one into *Grace-church-ſtreet*; and two ſmaller, *viz.* one by a long paved Paſſage, leading into *Lime-ſtreet*, and one under a Gateway from the ſecond Square. In this Square, every *Wedneſday*, is kept a Market for raw Hides, tann'd Leather, and Shoemakers Tools; and in the Warehouſes, up Stairs, on the Eaſt and South-ſides of the Square, is the great Market for *Colcheſter* Bays.

The ſecond Square is divided into two Oblongs: in the firſt is the Fiſh-market, and in the other a

Market

Market for Country Higglers, who bring ſmall Things, as Pork, Butter, Eggs, Pigs, Rabbets, Fowls, &c.

In the North Part of the Fiſh-market, the Place being too large for the Fiſhmongers Uſe, are the Stalls of the Town Butchers for Mutton and Veal, the beſt and largeſt of which, that *England* can produce, are to be bought there; and the Eaſt Part is a Fleſh-market for Country Butchers.

The third and laſt Square, which is alſo very large, is divided into Three Parts: round the Circumference, is the Butter-market, with all the Sorts of Higglery Goods, as before; the South Part is the Poultry-market, and the Bacon-market; and the Centre is an Herb-market. And there have been, lately, ſtill more Conveniences and Additions made to this prodigious Market, which we have not room to particularize.

All the other Markets follow the ſame Method in proportion to the Room they have for it.

There are Two Corn-markets; *viz. Bear-quay* and *Queenhith*. To the firſt comes all the vaſt Quantity of Corn that is brought into the City by Sea, from the Counties which lie commodious for that Carriage; and here Corn may be ſaid not to be ſold by Cart-loads, or Horſe-loads, but by Ship-loads; and except the Corn-chambers and Magazines in *Holland*, when the Fleets come in from *Dantzick* and *England*, the whole World cannot equal the Quantity bought and ſold here; for no Quantity can be wanted either for Home Conſumption, or for Foreign Exportation, but the Corn-factors, who are the Managers of this Market, are ready to ſupply it.

Queenhith is chiefly for Malt; the Barley of which takes up the Ground of ſo many Hundred thouſand Acres of Land in the Counties of *Surrey*, *Bucks*, *Berks*, *Oxford*, *Southampton*, and *Wilts*, and is called Weſt Country Malt.

It is true, there is a very great Quantity of Malt, and of other Corn too, brought to ſome other Places on the River, and ſold there; *viz.* to *Milford-lane*, above the Bridge, and the *Hermitage*, below the Bridge; but this is, in general, a Branch of the Trade of the other Places.

It muſt not be omitted, that *Queenhith* is alſo a very great Market for Meal, as well as Malt, and, perhaps, the greateſt in *England*.

The Veſſels which bring this Malt and Meal to *Queenhith*, are worthy Obſervation. They are remarkable for the Length of the Veſſel, and the Burden they carry, and yet the little Water they draw; for ſome of thoſe Barges carry above a thouſand Quarters of Malt at a time, and yet do not draw two Feet of Water; and a thouſand Quarters of Malt muſt be granted to be, at leaſt, an hundred Tons Burden; and ſome of theſe large Barges come as far as from *Abington*, which is about one hundred and fifty Miles from *London*, if we meaſure by the River.

The next Market, which is more than ordinary remarkable, is the Coal-market at *Billinſgate*. This is kept every Morning on the broad Place juſt at the Head of *Billinſgate-dock*, and the Place is called *Rome-land*: from what old forgotten Original it has that Name, Hiſtory is ſilent. I need not, except for the ſake of Strangers, take Notice, that the City of *London*, and Parts adjacent, as alſo all the South of *England*, is ſupplied with Coals, called therefore *Sea-coal*, from *Newcaſtle upon Tine*, and from the Coaſt of *Durham*, and *Northumberland*. This Trade is ſo conſiderable, that it is eſteemed the great Nurſery of our Seamen. I ſhall have occaſion to ſay more of it in my Account of the Northern Parts of *England*. The Quantity of Coals, which, one Year with another, are burnt and conſumed in and about this City,

is ſuppoſed to be about 500,000 Chalders, every Chalder containing 36 Buſhels, and generally weighing 3000 Weight.

Moſt of theſe Coals are bought and ſold on this little Spot of *Rome-land*; and tho' ſometimes, eſpecially in caſe of a War, or of contrary Winds, a Fleet of 500 to 700 Sail of Ships, comes up the River at a time, yet they never want a Market. The Brokers of theſe Coals are called *Crimps*; the Veſſels they load their Ships with at *Newcaſtle*, *Keels*; and the Ships that bring them, *Cats*, and *Hags*, or *Hag-boats*, *Fly-boats*, and the like.

The Increaſe of this Conſumption of Coals is another Evidence of the great Increaſe of the City of *London*; for, within a few Years paſt, the Import of Coals was not, in the River of *Thames*, ſo great by very near half.

It muſt be obſerved, that as the City of *London* occaſions the Conſumption of ſo great a Quantity of Corn and Coals, ſo the Meaſurement of them is under the Inſpection of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen; and for the Direction of it, there is allowed a certain Number of Corn-meters, and Coal-meters, whoſe Places are for Life, and bring them in a very conſiderable Income.

They have abundance of poor Men employ'd under them, who are alſo called Meters, and are, or ought to be, Freemen of the City.

This is, indeed, a kind of Tax, as well upon the Coals as Corn; but the Buyer is abundantly recompenſed, by being aſcertained in his Meaſure; for the ſworn Meters are ſo placed between the Buyer and the Seller, and have ſo many Eyes upon them (being beſides Men of Character), that there is hardly ever any room for Complaint on this Head.

Acts have very lately paſſed in relation to the Admeaſurement

measurement or Metage of Coals, for the City of *Westminster*.

XI.

Of the Public Schools and Libraries.

WE muſt be very brief in this Article; nor have we room to ſay any thing of the private Schools, which are hardly to be number'd.

Near the Abbey at *Weſtminſter* is the Royal *Free-ſchool*, founded by Queen *Elizabeth*; it is not out-done even by thoſe of *Wincheſter* and *Eton*, for the excellent Scholars it has produced, and is in a very flouriſhing Condition.

St. Paul's School, founded by Dr. *Colet*, Dean of *St. Paul*'s, is a fair Foundation for 153 Boys, to be taught *gratis*.

Merchant-Taylors School was founded by Sir *Thomas White*, Founder of *St. John*'s College, *Oxon*, for 100 Scholars to be taught *gratis*, 100 more for Half a Crown, and another 100 for Five Shillings a Quarter; and has 46 Fellowſhips eſtabliſhed in *St. John*'s College, for Scholars elected from this School.

Another excellent School was founded at *Mercers-chapel*, by that Company.

To ſay nothing of upwards of 70 Charity Schools upheld by the benevolent Contributions of charitable Perſons; alſo the Mathematical, and other Schools, at *Chriſt's Hoſpital*, which I have not room to be more particular in.

As to the LIBRARIES, I can only mention them likewiſe in a curſory manner. Thoſe at *Sion-college*, the *Temple*, and other Inns of Court, *Caſtle-yard*, near the *Mews*, the *King's*, &c. deſerve more particular Mention than we can give them. In *Red-croſs-ſtreet*, near *Cripplegate*, an handſome Building was erected, *Ann.* 1727. by the late Dr. *Daniel*

Williams, a Diſſenting Divine, for a public Library for the Uſe of the Diſſenting Miniſters of *London*.

The valuable Collection, called the *Cotton Library*, is ſo well known, that we ſhall only mention the great Diſaſter that befel it in the Year 1730. when a Fire happened, which burnt and defaced a great Number of valuable Manuſcripts. But moſt happily it was diſcovered and extinguiſhed, before it made ſo great a Deſtruction as was at firſt apprehended. The late learned Keeper of this ineſtimable Treaſure, Dr. *Bentley*, Maſter of *Trinity-college*, *Cambridge*, whoſe Labours have done ſo much Honour to the Commonwealth of Learning, was the firſt, we are told, to expreſs to ſome of his Friends, who came to condole with him the *public* Loſs, the great Joy he conceived, that all his *own Works* had eſcaped the Ravages of that furious Element, which had been ſo little complaiſant to many curious Pieces of Antiquity.

XII.

Of the Shipping in the Thames, *and the Trade carry'd on by means of that noble River.*

THE whole River from *London-bridge* to *Black-wall*, is one great Arſenal: nothing in the World can be like it. The great Building-yards at *Schedam* near *Amſterdam* are ſaid to out-do them in the Number of Ships which are built there; and they tell us, that there are more Ships generally ſeen at *Amſterdam*, than in the *Thames*.

I will not ſay, but that there may be more Veſſels built at *Schedam*, and the Parts adjacent, than in the River *Thames*; but then it muſt be obſerved,

1. That the *Engliſh* build for themſelves principally, the *Dutch* for all the World.

2. That almoſt all the Ships the *Dutch* have, are built

built there, whereas not one fifth Part of our Shipping is built in the *Thames*.

3. That we ſee more Veſſels in leſs Room at *Amſterdam*; but, ſetting aſide their Hoys, Bilanders, and Schouts, which are in great Numbers always there, being Veſſels peculiar to their Inland and Coaſting Navigation, you do not ſee more Ships, nor near ſo many Ships of Force at *Amſterdam*, as at *London*.

That Part of the River *Thames* which is properly the Harbour, and where the Ships uſually deliver or unload their Cargoes, is called the *Pool*, and begins at the Turning of the River out of *Limehouſe Reach*, and extends to the *Cuſtom-houſe* Quays: In this Compaſs I have had the Curioſity to count the Ships as well as I could, *en paſſant*; and have found about 2000 Sail of all Sorts, not reckoning Barges, Lighters, or Pleaſure-boats, and Yachts; but of Veſſels that really go to Sea.

It is true, the River or *Pool* ſeemed at that time to be pretty full of Ships; as alſo that I included the Ships which lay in *Deptford* and *Blackwall* Reaches, and in the Wet Docks; but then I did not include the Men of War at the King's-yard, and in the Wet Dock at *Deptford*, which were not a few.

In the River there are, from *Battle-bridge*, on the *Southwark* Side; and the *Hermitage-bridge*, on the City Side; reckoning to *Blackwall*, incluſive,

3 Wet Docks for laying up
22 Dry Docks for Repairing } Merchant-ſhips.
33 Yards for Building

Including the Buildings of Lighters, Hoys, *&c.* but excluding all Boat-builders, Wherry-builders, and above Bridge, Barge-builders.

To enter into any Deſcription of the great Magazines of all manner of Naval Stores, for the furniſhing

niſhing thoſe Builders, would be endleſs; 'tis ſufficient to add, That *England* is an inexhauſtible Storehouſe of Timber; and all the Oak Timber, and generally the Plank alſo, uſed in the Building* theſe Ships, is found in *England* only; and that principally in the Southern Counties near us; as particularly *Berks*, *Bucks*, *Surrey*, *Kent*, *Suſſex*, and *Suffolk*.

XIII.

Of the Manner by which the City is ſupply'd with Water.

NO City in the World is ſo well furniſhed with Water as *London*, for the neceſſary Occaſions there, as well as for the extinguiſhing of Fires, when they happen.

1. By the great Convenience of Water, which being every-where laid in the Streets in large Timber Pipes, as well from the *Thames* as the *New River*, thoſe Pipes are furniſhed with a Fire Plug, of which the Pariſh Officers have the Key; and when opened, let out, not a Pipe, but, as one may ſay, a River of Water into the Streets; ſo that making but a Dam in the Chanel, the whole Street is immediately under Water to ſupply the Engines.

2. By the great Number of admirable Engines, of which almoſt every Pariſh has one, and ſome Halls alſo, and ſeveral private Citizens, have them of their own; ſo that no ſooner does a Fire break out, but the Houſe is ſurrounded with Engines, and a Flood of Water poured upon it, till it is extinguiſhed.

3. The ſeveral Inſurance-Offices, of which I have ſpoken in Article III. have each of them a certain Set of Men, whom they keep in conſtant Pay, and furniſh with Tools proper for their Work, and to whom they give Jack Caps of Leather, able to keep them

them from Hurt, if Brick or Timber, or any thing not of too great a Bulk, ſhould fall upon them. Theſe Men, whom they call *Firemen*, make it their Buſineſs to be ready at Call, all Hours, to aſſiſt in caſe of Fire; and it muſt be acknowleged, they are very dextrous, bold, diligent, and ſucceſsful.

There are two great Engines for the raiſing the *Thames* Water, one at the Bridge, and the other near *Broken-wharf*; and theſe are able to raiſe ſo great a Quantity of Water, that 'tis ſaid, they might be able to ſupply every Houſe throughout the whole City with a running Pipe of Water even to the uppermoſt Story.

However, the *New River*, which is brought by an artificial Stream from *Ware*, continues to ſupply the greater Part of the City; and that with more Eaſe than the *Thames* Engines. Of this River I ſhall take farther Notice in my Deſcription of *Hertfordſhire*, where it takes its Riſe.

The *Chelſea Waterworks*, as they are called, are alſo of no ſmall Uſe for the new Buildings at that End of the Town. There is a noble Cut (which is a large, tho' not long, River of itſelf) from the *Thames* to near *Buckingham Houſe* Garden-wall, where are two Engines which work by Fire alternately for raiſing the Water into large Iron Pipes, thro" which it is convey'd to a great Reſervoir of Water, in *Hyde-park*, to anſwer the above Purpoſe.

Formerly there were ſeveral beautiful Conduits in *London*, the Water of which was very ſweet and good, and brought to them at a vaſt Expence from ſeveral diſtant Springs, in large Leaden Pipes: ſome of theſe were rebuilt ſince the Fire; but now the City is ſo well ſupplied with Water, that they are either quite demoliſh'd, or intirely out of Uſe. That in *Cheapſide* was pull'd down but very lately, and a Statue propoſed to be built in its Place, in Honour

of the great King *William* III. and it muſt be own'd, that it is one of the moſt commodious Places for ſuch a Purpoſe in the whole City. But it being ſet on Foot, as ſome thought, by Party on one Side, was rejected, from far leſs laudable Motives, by Party on the other.

The Society of the *Temple* neglected to lay in Water till the Year 1737. when a terrible Fire happening in it, which burnt down ſeveral Houſes, and the *Middle Temple* Kitchen among the reſt, that Society agreed with the *New River Water* Company; and there are now fine Conveniencies built for that Purpoſe, in every Court, and open Place, which are only to be uncovered on occaſion of ſuch Accidents. This Fire happened *Jan.* 3. 1736-7. and in it was conſumed one of the moſt valuable Collections of Antiquity in *England*, belonging to *James Weſt*, Eſq; except the *Cotton* and *Harleian* Library.

To ſum up my Deſcription of *London*, take the following Heads: There are in this great Maſs of Buildings thus called *London*,

One Cathedral.
Two Collegiate Churches.
3 Choirs of Muſic.
145 Pariſhes.
69 Chapels, where the Church of *England* Service is performed.
2 Churches at *Deptford*, not taken into the Limits now deſcribed.
28 Foreign Churches.
Beſides Diſſenters Meetings of all Perſuaſions.
Popiſh Chapels; and
2 *Jews* Synagogues.

There are alſo 13 Hoſpitals, beſides leſſer Charities, call'd *Alms-houſes*, of which they reckon 100, many of which have Chapels for Divine Service.
3 Colleges.
27 Public Priſons.
8 Public Schools, called *Free-ſchools*.
131 *Charity-ſchools*, in *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and 10 Miles round.

15 Markets

15 Markets for Fleſh.
2 for live Cattle.
2 Herb-markets.
23 other Markets.
15 Inns of Court.
4 Fairs.
27 Squares, beſides thoſe within any ſingle Building, as the *Temple*, *Somerſet-houſe*, &c.
6 public Bridges, including the new one at *Weſtminſter*.
A Town-houſe, or *Guild-hall*.
A *Royal Exchange*.
A *Cuſtom-houſe*.
3 *Artillery-grounds*.
4 *Peſt-houſes*.
2 Biſhops Palaces.
3 Royal Palaces.

XIV.

Of the Chriſtenings and Burials in London, *&c. Of the Importance of the City of* London *to the whole Kingdom. Of its comparative Proportion to the Public Expence of the Kingdom, and the diſproportionate Number of Members it returns.*

LET us now mention ſomething briefly in relation to the yearly Births and Burials of this extended City: from an Account of which Sir *William Petty* thought he might make ſome Calculations of the Numbers of the Inhabitants. And I ſhall only take notice, that whereas the general Number of the Burials in the Year 1666. and farther back, were from 17000 to 19000 in a Year, the yearly Bill for the Year 1736. amounted as follows:

Pariſhes.	Chriſten'd.	Bury'd
In the 97 Pariſhes within the Walls	1279	2580
In the 17 Pariſhes without the Walls	3852	8001
In the 21 Out-pariſhes in *Middleſex* and *Surry*	6141	13250
In the 10 Pariſhes in the City and Liberty of *Weſtminſter*	3955	6980
145	15227	39811

Here is to be obſerved, that the Number of Burials exceeding ſo much the Number of Births, is, becauſe, as it is not the Number born, but the Number chriſtened, that are ſet down, which is taken from the Pariſh Regiſter; ſo all the Children of Diſſenters of every Sort, *Proteſtant*, *Popiſh*, and *Jewiſh*, are omitted, alſo all the Children of Foreigners, *French*, *Dutch*, &c. which are baptized in their own Churches, and all the Children of thoſe who are ſo poor, that they cannot get them regiſtred: ſo that if a due Eſtimate be made, the Births may be very well ſuppoſed to exceed the Burials, one Year with another, by many Thouſands.

London returns Four Members to Parliament, *Weſtminſter* Two; and theſe Six, with Two for the County of *Middleſex*, make the Eight, which is all that this exceeding populous County returns, altho' every ſingle Ward, in *London*, is far ſuperior to moſt of the Boroughs in *England*, and really to many of the greater Towns, that are repreſented by Two Members, and contributes infinitely more to the public Charge: and, indeed, one may aſk, What are the greateſt Part of the Boroughs of *Cornwall*, and many in that of *Devon*, which two Counties alone return 70 Members, compared to 20 populous Villages one might name in the Neighbourhood of *London?* Some of which, no doubt, would be conſider'd, were a new Repartition of this kind practicable, and many of thoſe pedling Boroughs be obliged to give up to them: a Scheme that muſt be ſet on foot under a very undeſigning and honourable Adminiſtration, for Reaſons too obvious to need particularizing.

The following Scheme, tho' calculated before the *Union*, and conſequently before the 45 Members, which repreſent *North Britain*, were added to the 513, returned for *England* and *Wales*, will ſet this Matter in a ſtill clearer Light.

A SCHEME

A SCHEME of the Proportions the ſeveral Counties in *England* paid to the Three Shillings AID, 1699. compared with the Number of Members they ſend to Parliament.

In this Scheme the Proportions are thus conſidered; *viz.* That as the whole Kingdom ſend 513 Members to Parliament, ſo the whole Tax is divided into 513 equal Parts;

Column { 1. Shews the Name of the County. 2. How many Parts of the 513 each County paid. 3. How many Members of the 513 each County ſend.

COUNTIES.	P.	M.	*COUNTIES.*	P.	M.
Bedford,	7	4	Monmouth,	3	3
Berks,	10	9	Norfolk,	22	12
Bucks,	12	14	Northampton,	12	9
Cambridge,	9	6	* Northumberland,	4	8
Cheſter,	7	4	Nottingham,	7	8
* Cornwall,	8	44	Oxon,	10	9
* Cumberland,	1	6	Rutland,	2	2
Derby,	6	4	Salop,	7	12
* Devon,	21	26	Somerſet,	19	18
* Dorſet,	9	20	* Southampton,	14	26
* Durham,	3	4	Stafford,	7	10
Eſſex,	24	8	Suffolk,	20	16
Glouceſter,	12	8	Surry,	18	14
Hereford,	5	8	Suſſex,	18	28
Hertford,	11	6	Warwick,	10	6
Huntingdon	4	4	* Weſtmorland,	1	4
Kent,	22	18	* Wilts,	13	34
* Lancaſter,	5	14	Worceſter,	9	9
Leiceſter,	9	4	* York,	24	30
Lincoln,	19	12	Wales.	11	24
Middleſex,	80	8	All England and Wales,	513	513

Note, That the Proportion of the Six Northern, and Five Weſtern Counties, marked thus, *, are	P. 103	M. 216
And that *Middleſex* and *Eſſex* are	104	16

Cities are included in their reſpective Counties.

XV.

The Benefit to the Public of a good Underſtanding between the COURT *and* CITY.

HAVING ſhewn the Grandeur and Importance of this great Metropolis, it remains only to obſerve, How neceſſary it is for the Good of the whole

Kingdom, that there ſhould be a right Underſtanding cultivated between the Adminiſtration and that. For,

There has formerly been a great Emulation between the *Court-end* of the Town, and the *City*; and it was ſeriouſly propoſed in a certain Reign, how the *Court* ſhould humble the *City*; nor was it an impracticable Thing at that time, had the pernicious Scheme been carry'd on. Indeed it was carried further than conſiſted with the Prudence of a good Government, or of a wiſe People: for the *Court* envy'd the *City*'s Riches, and the Citizens were ever jealous of the *Court*'s Deſigns. The moſt fatal Steps the *Court* took at that Time to humble the City, were, 1. The ſhutting up the *Exchequer*: And, 2. The bringing a *Quo Warranto* againſt their Charter. But theſe Things can but be touch'd at here. The *City* has outliv'd it all, and both the Attempts turned to the Diſcredit of the Party who puſhed them on. The *City* is, indeed, and at all times muſt be, ſo neceſſary to the *Court*, that no prudent Adminiſtration will ever ſeek Occaſions for Miſunderſtandings with it; but will, if not infatuated, do all in its Power to encourage and increaſe the Opulence of the *City*, which, upon any Emergency, will be able and willing, if not diſobliged, to ſupport the *Court*, and furniſh Means to protect the Kingdom, againſt either Foreign or Domeſtic Enemies.

And here, having exceeded all Bounds of a Letter, for which, however, the Subject is an Excuſe, I will cloſe my Account of this famous Metropolis, and with it my Letter; being, Sir,

Yours, &c.

LET-

LETTER III.

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION *of Part of* MIDDLESEX; *and of the whole County of* HERTFORD.

SIR,

THE Villages round *London* partake of the Influence of *London*, as I have taken Notice in the Counties of *Eſſex*, *Kent*, and *Surry*.

Hackney and *Bromley* are the firſt Villages which begin the County of *Middleſex*, Eaſt: for *Bow*, as reckon'd to *Stepney*, is a Part of the great Maſs. This Town of *Hackney* is of large Extent, containing no leſs than Twelve Hamlets, or ſeparate Villages, tho' ſome of them now join; *viz.*

Church-ſtreet,	*Clapton*,	*Shacklewell*,
Homerton,	*Mare-ſtreet*,	*Dalſton*,
Wyck-houſe,	*Well-ſtreet*,	*Kingſland*,
Grove-ſtreet,	*Cambridge-heath*,	*Newington.*

All theſe, tho' ſome of them are very large Villages, make up but one Pariſh, and are, within a few Years, ſo increaſed in Buildings, and ſo well in-

habited, that there is no Compariſon to be made between their preſent and former State; every ſeparate Hamlet being increaſed, and ſome of them more than trebly bigger than formerly they were.

Hackney is ſo remarkable for the Retreat of wealthy Citizens, that there are, at this time, near an Hundred Coaches kept in it.

Newington, *Tottenham*, *Edmonton*, and *Enfield*, ſtand all in a Line North from the City. The Increaſe of Buildings is ſo great in them all, that they ſeem, to a Traveler, to be one continued Street; eſpecially *Tottenham* and *Edmonton*; and in them all, the new Buildings ſo far exceed the old, eſpecially in their Value, and the Figure of the Inhabitants, that the Faſhion of the Town is quite altered.

At *Tottenham* we ſee the Remains of an antient Building called the *Croſs*, from which the Town takes the Name of *High-Croſs*. Here is a ſmall, but pleaſant, Seat of the Earl of *Colerain*.

Highgate and *Hamſtead* are next on the North-ſide. At the firſt is a very beautiful Houſe built by the late Sir *William Aſhurſt*, on the very Summit of the Hill, and with a View from the very loweſt Windows over the whole Vale, to the City; and that ſo eminently, that they ſee the Ships paſſing up and down the River, for Twelve or Fifteen Miles below *London*.

As the County does not extend far this Way, I take no notice of ſmaller Towns; nor is there any thing of Note but Citizens Houſes for ſeveral Miles; except the Chace, at *Enfield*, which was a very beautiful Place, when King *James* I. reſided at *Theobalds*, for the Pleaſure of his Hunting; and was then very full of Deer, and all ſorts of Game; but it has ſuffered ſeveral Depredations ſince that, and particularly in the Times of Uſurpation, when it was ſtript both of Game and Timber, and lett out in Farms to Tenants for the Uſe of the Public.

After the Reſtoration it was laid open again; Woods and Groves were every-where planted, and the whole Chace ſtored with Deer: but it is not, nor perhaps ever will be, what it was.

Hampſtead is riſen from a little Village, almoſt to a City; nor could the uneven Surface, inconvenient for Building, check the Humour of the Builders; for even on the very Steep of the Hill, where there is no walking Twenty Yards together, without tugging up, or ſtraddling down a Hill, the Buildings are increaſed to that Degree, that the Town almoſt ſpreads the whole Side of the Hill.

The Heath extends about a Mile every Way, and affords a moſt beautiful Proſpect; for we ſee here *Hanſlop Steeple* one way, which is within eight Miles of *Northampton*, N. W. to *Landown-hill* in *Eſſex*, another Way Eaſt, at leaſt Sixty-ſix Miles from one another. The Proſpect to *London*, and beyond it to *Banſtead-downs*, South; *Shooters-hill*, South-eaſt; *Red-hill*, South-weſt, and *Windſor-caſtle*, Weſt; is alſo uninterrupted. Indeed, due North, we ſee no farther than to *Barnet*, which is not above Six Miles from it.

At the Foot of this Hill is an old Seat of the Earls of *Cheſterfield*, called *Belſize*; which for many Years had been neglected: but, being tenanted by a certain *Projector*, who knew by what Handle to take the gay Part of the World, he made it an Houſe of Pleaſure and Entertainment, and was one of the firſt of the Kind: this brought a wonderful Concourſe of People to the Place; and they were effectually gratified in all Sorts of Diverſion; but there being too great a Licence uſed, it alarmed the Magiſtrates, and now the Houſe is haſtening apace to Ruin; and the ſame Diverſions are carried on at others.

Beſides the Long Room at *Hampſtead*, in which the Company meet publicly on a *Monday* Evening to

to play at Cards, *&c.* Mr. *Vipand*, the Maſter of that, built, in the Year 1735. a fine Aſſembly-room, Sixty Feet long, and Thirty wide, elegantly decorated; every one who does not ſubſcribe, pays half a Crown for Admittance. Every Gentleman who ſubſcribes a Guinea for the Seaſon, has a Ticket for himſelf, and for Two Ladies. Gentlemen and Ladies, who lodge in the Town, are entertained every *Sunday* for 6 *d.* each, with Tea and Coffee; but with no other Amuſements, but what they find out for one another, and from one another.

I could not be at *Hampſtead* without making an Excurſion to *Edgware*, a little Market-town, on the Road to *St. Albans*; for 'tis certain, that this was formerly the main Road from *London* to *St. Albans*, being the famous high Road, call'd *Watling-ſtreet*, which reached from *London* to *Shrewſbury*, and on towards *Wales*.

Near this Town, the late Duke of *Chandos* built one of the moſt magnificent Palaces in *England*, with a Profuſion of Expence, and ſo well furniſhed within, that it had hardly its Equal in *England*. The Plaſtering and Gilding were done by the famous *Pargotti*, an *Italian*. The great *Salon* or *Hall* was painted by *Paolucci*. The Pillars ſupporting the Building were all of Marble: the great Stair-caſe was extremely fine; and the Steps were all of Marble, every Step being of one whole Piece, about 22 Feet in Length.

The Avenue was ſpacious and majeſtic, and as it gave you the View of two Fronts, join'd, as it were in one, the Diſtance not admitting you to ſee the Angle, which was in the Centre; ſo you were agreeably drawn in, to think the Front of the Houſe almoſt twice as large as it was.

And yet, when you came nearer, you were again ſurpriſed, by ſeeing the winding Paſſage opening, as

it

it were, a new Front to the Eye, of near 120 Feet wide, which you had not ſeen before; ſo that you were loſt a while in looking near hand for what you ſo plainly ſaw a great way off.

The Gardens were well deſigned, and had a vaſt Variety in them, and the Canals were large and noble.

The Chapel is a Singularity, both in its Building, and the Beauty of its Workmanſhip; and the late Duke, at one time, maintained there a full Choir, and had the Worſhip perform'd with the beſt Muſic, after the manner of the Chapel Royal.

I am ſorry that I am obliged to ſay, that all theſe Beauties *were*, inſtead of *are*. But ſuch is the Fate of ſublunary Things, that all this Grandeur is already at an End! The Furniture and Curioſities have been brought to public Auction; and, at this time, *Anno* 1747. this ſuperb Edifice is pulling down, and ſelling for the Materials. The ſhorteſt Duration that perhaps ever great Houſe had, where the Poſſeſſor fell not under the public Cenſure, or by the Malignity of powerful Enemies, making him a Sacrifice to the Paſſions of a Prince, as has been the Caſe in leſs happy Governments than the *Britiſh*. We ſhall not enter into the Cauſes of this unhappy Cataſtrophe. But if we did, it would appear, that the Great Founder was more to be pitied, and even admired, than blamed, having ſtood in the Gap to prevent, as he hoped, a more general Ruin to a Society which he was at the Head of; but which could only be poſtponed, and not prevented, and ſwallowed up the Fortune of one of the moſt munificent and princely-ſpirited Noblemen that ever adorned this Nation.

The Fields between *London* and this Place are conſtantly kept in Graſs, there being ſcarce any arable Land intervening; and it is chiefly from hence that *London* is ſupplied with Hay; ſo that it is no uncommon Thing, to ſee an hundred Loads of Hay go up

to

to *London* on a Market-day, and each of theſe Teams bring back a Load of Dung for dreſſing the Land, which preſerves the Ground in *good Heart*, as it is termed by the Farmer; and thereby it produces conſtantly good Crops.

Two Miles from *Edgware*, we go up a ſmaller Aſcent by the great Road; when leaving the Street-way on the Right, we enter a ſpacious Common called *Buſhy-heath*, where again we have a very agreeable Proſpect. On the Right-hand, we have in View the Town of *St. Albans*; and all the Spaces between, and farther beyond it, look like a Garden. The incloſed Corn-fields make one grand Parterre: the thick-planted Hedge-rows ſeem like a Wilderneſs or Labyrinth; the Villages interſperſed, look like ſo many ſeveral noble Seats of Gentlemen at a Diſtance. In a word, it is all Nature, and yet looks like Art. On the Left-hand we ſee the Weſt-end of *London*, *Weſtminſter-Abbey*, and the Parliament-Houſe; but the Body of the City is cut off by the Hill, at which *Hampſtead* intercepted the Sight on that Side. More to the South we have *Hampton-Court*, and S. W. *Windſor*, and, between both, thoſe beautiful Parts of *Middleſex* and *Surry*, on the Banks of the *Thames*, which are the moſt agreeable in the World. But I muſt travel no farther this Way, till I have taken a Journey Weſt from *London*, and ſeen what the Country affords that Way.

The next Towns, adjacent to *London*, are *Kenſington*, *Chelſea*, *Hamerſmith*, *Fulham*, *Brentford*, *Twickenham*, &c. all of them near, or adjoining to, the River of *Thames*; and which, by the Beauty of their Buildings, make good the North Shore of the River, anſwerable to what I have already deſcribed.

But here I ought not to omit mentioning the new Bridge from *Fulham* to *Putney*, croſs the *Thames*; which

which is an handſome wooden Fabric, and as convenient, by its many angular Indentings, for Foot-Paſſengers, as for Horſes and Coaches. A Toll is paid for every one that paſſes it, let it be ever ſo often in a Day; and the Rate pretty much the ſame as the Ferry uſed to be. And as the Proprietors are ſaid to divide 10 or 12 *l. per Cent.* from the Profits of it, 'tis pity, methinks, that Foot-Paſſengers, who cannot hurt the Bridge, ſhould pay at all.

Kenſington cannot be named without mentioning the King's Palace there: it was originally an old Houſe of the Earl of *Nottingham*'s, of whom King *William* bought it, and then inlarged it as we ſee; ſome of the old Building ſtill remaining in the Centre of the Houſe.

The Houſe itſelf fronts to the Garden three Ways, the Gardens being now made exceeding fine, and inlarged to ſuch a Degree, as to reach quite from the great Road in *Kenſington* Town, to the *Acton* Road North, more than a Mile, beſides a great Track of Ground out of *Hyde-Park*. An artificial Mount is alſo erected, which would afford a fine View, if the Evergreens, planted upon it, had not over-topp'd the Eye, ſo far as to make the whole Mount, in a manner, uſeleſs to the Proſpect to be taken from it. But this may be eaſily remedied. It has a Seat upon it, which turns round at Pleaſure. The noble River that is lately dug in *Hyde-park*, and, generally, tho' improperly, called *The Serpentine River*, looks finely from theſe beautiful Gardens, and is a great Ornament to them. The firſt Laying out of theſe Gardens was the Deſign of the late Queen *Mary*; who, finding the Air agreed with the King, reſolved to make it agreeable to herſelf too, and gave the firſt Orders for inlarging them.

Quen *Anne* improved what her Siſter began, and delighted very much in the Place; and often was pleaſed

pleaſed to make the Green-houſe, which is very beautiful, her Summer Supper-houſe.

And her late Majeſty Queen *Caroline* completed the Whole, by the Additions juſt now mentioned.

King *William*, Prince *George* of *Denmark*, and Queen *Anne*, died here.

As this Palace opens to the Weſt, there are two great Wings built, for receiving ſuch as neceſſarily attend the Court, and a large Port-cocher at the Entrance, with a Poſtern, and a Stone Gallery, on the South-ſide of the Court, which leads to the great Stair-caſe.

It is no Wonder, the Court being ſo much at *Kenſington*, that that Town has increaſed in Buildings; and indeed it abounds with handſome Houſes, and has a very pretty Square. But it muſt be confeſs'd, that this Square ſtands low; and when we conſider the beautiful Situation of *Holland-Houſe*, in the Neighbourhood of *Kenſington*, one cannot help regretting, that that famous old Edifice, which has been long decaying, tho' it lately had large Sums expended upon it, did not give Place to a Deſign of that Nature; which would have been a prodigious Improvement, as well to the Eſtate as to the Town, and all its Neighbourhood.

South of *Kenſington* ſtands *Chelſea*, at which Place is the nobleſt Building, and one of the beſt Foundations of its kind in the World, for maimed and old Soldiers, built by Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*. It is a noble Structure, extremely convenient, and worthy of the admirable Architect; leſs magnificent and coſtly, indeed, than that of *Greenwich* for Seamen: but had the former been the Model for the latter, the Difference in the Expence would have provided for twice the Number of ſuperannuated Sailors: And were the Salaries and Port of the Officers in both ſo reduced, as the Nature and Deſign of an *Hoſpital* require, that

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is to ſay, were the principal ones contented to live as Gentlemen only, and not as Perſons of high Rank and Diſtinction, emulating, as ſome have heretofore done, the firſt Quality in the Kingdom, Luxury would not have dared to ſhew its Face in Walls conſecrated to Charity; nor would there have needed ſo great a Part of the Structure to be taken up in Houſes of Officers, and ſome of them rather reſembling Palaces than what they are. *Plain*, *neat*, or *elegant*, methinks, ſhould be the eſſential Characteriſtics of Houſes thus devoted; and thoſe who would not have been ſo ſatisfied, ſhould not either have ſought or accepted of the Offices; much leſs ſhould any of them been made Sinecures.

At *Chelſea* alſo is the Phyſic-garden belonging to the Company of *Apothecaries* of *London*. In it is lately built a ſtately and convenient Edifice, which ſerves at the ſame time for a Green-houſe; and Apartments over it, for meeting of the Company of *Apothecaries*, &c. with a large Room for a Library; and over them are very convenient Apartments, which may be uſed for drying Seeds of Plants, *&c.* As this Ground was made a Preſent by Sir *Hans Sloane*, they have erected, in the new Building, a Statue of that Gentleman; and intend to make, in due Time, an Opening down to the River, which will have a beautiful Effect upon the *Thames*, and receive no leſs Grace from it. On the Pedeſtal of this Statue is an Inſcription expreſſing the Company's Gratitude to Sir *Hans*.

Sir *Robert Walpole*, afterwards Earl of *Orford*, had a fine Houſe at *Chelſea*, adjoining, in a manner, to the Royal Hoſpital. It was adorned with noble Pictures. But the Houſe, having been ſold by the preſent Earl, is now in other Hands.

Near the ſaid Hoſpital were, till within theſe few Years, a neat and beautiful Houſe and Gardens, built

built by the late Earl of *Ranelagh*. But the Gardens and Out-buildings have been quite deſtroyed, and the Ground ſold out in Parcels to Builders, and other Purchaſers.

The Manſion is now turned into a Breakfaſting-Houſe, and dedicated to that Luxury which overſpreads the Face of the Nation. A Rotunda, as I may call it, is erected in the Gardens, to propagate Sound for Senſe, and to feaſt the Eyes of Belles and Beaux, who croud thither to become Spectacles to one another, for the Benefit of the Proprietors of the Undertaking. As to the Building itſelf, it is a fine Structure, and one of the largeſt Rooms in the World, being 130 Feet Diameter. A ſtanding Monument of the predominant Taſte of the preſent Age.

Marybone Gardens, *Sadler's Wells*, and a Variety of ſuch ſort of Houſes of Entertainment about *Iſlington*, hardly to be numbered, and all boaſting of their Bands of *Muſic*, beſides what I have taken notice of at *Dulwich*, *Putney*, *Ruckholt*, are Emanations, as I may call them, from the two grand Seminaries of Luxury, RANELAGH and VAUX-HALL GARDENS; at both which Places a Profuſion of Expence has not been ſpared to invite Perſons of both Sexes to meet, to aſſiſt in and promote the Propagation of theſe Amuſements; which, under the Names of Breakfaſting-Places, Concerts, Balls, Aſſemblies, *&c.* have overſpread the Kingdom; and which equally threaten a general Diſſolution of Manners, as a Diſſipation of Fortunes.

The ſerious Readers, I am ſure (and you, Sir, to whom I addreſs theſe Letters, calculated for the Public View), who wiſh the laſting Proſperity of the famous Kingdom which I am deſcribing, and which, hitherto, has been the Envy of all its Neighbours, but which now is carrying its glorious Liberty into a Licentiouſneſs as enervating to the Mind as to the Body,

Body, will not be diſpleaſed with my honeſt Warmth on this Occaſion, and with peruſing here a few curſory, but not unſeaſonable, Obſervations on a Subject of this Importance.

I ſhall firſt take notice, that the Expences of the Public are very high, the Debt we labour under is very large, and our Taxes, how neceſſary ſoever, *very heavy*; from all which I conclude, that INDUSTRY ought to be as much encourag'd as poſſible, and that every thing capable of leſſening it, ought to be the Object of Cenſure.

It is our *Induſtry* that changed the Face of this Country from what it was, and proved thereby the Source of our Liberty and Property. It is our *Induſtry* that is the Baſis of Domeſtic and Foreign Trade, and, conſequently, the ſole Fountain of our Riches. In ſhort, it is our *Induſtry* that muſt maintain us, enable us to do Juſtice to others, and to live happily ourſelves; for without it we can do neither.

But of late, ſo many Inventions are ſtarted up to defeat this great Principle of our Freedom and Felicity, as ſeem loudly to demand the Notice of the Public.

In the *Winter*, *Balls*, *Concerts*, *Operas*, *Aſſemblées*, *Maſquerades*, *Ridottos*, *Routs*, *Drums*, and twenty other Diverſions, to the very Names of which I am a Stranger, continually ſolicit People to be idle.

In the *Summer*, there is no ſtirring at any Corner, without meeting with Places conſecrated to *Amuſement*, or, in plain Engliſh, driving away all Thoughts of *private Oeconomy*, or of *public Spirit*: and this, at a time, when the Nation, as well as Individuals, are very far from being over-burdened with Wealth.

I would not hereby inſinuate, that *all* Diverſions ſhould be ſuppreſſed; but the Reaſon of Mankind plainly proves, that they ought not to be indulged without Reſtriction. Why, in particular, ſhould

Contrivances be permitted, or connived at, and that for the ſake of a very few, who ſet them on Foot for their own ſordid Intereſt, to ſeduce thoſe who ought to work, to think Work a Burden, and a Slavery? Our Anceſtors had Holidays; with us it is Holiday all the Year round. Formerly, People danced now-and-then in an Evening: Now, *Sundays* excepted, People dance every Morning of the Week.

Evening Collations had ſome Reaſon; but for public Breakfaſts, Dinners with Muſic, and Afternoon Entertainments, what Reaſon can be given? Or what muſt be our future Condition, who in the preſent decaying State of our Trade, when we have more formidable Rivals than ever in our foreign Commerce, and are actually engaged in a burdenſome, and, as we may ſay, with great Concern, not ſucceſsful War, think only of the Means of forgetting our Danger, and conſequently, of letting Things become daily worſe and worſe? Is this either falſe, or exaggerating? And if true, can there be any thing more deplorable?

Can there be any thing either more barbarous or more unjuſt, than to countenance Inventions for making Beggars, who are afterwards to be maintained by the Fruits of other Peoples Labours; ſo that the beſt Members of Society are left to drudge for the worſt?

The principal and genteeleſt public Diverſions were formerly confined to the Metropolis; and thoſe chiefly to the two Theatres: and theſe were reſorted to only in the Evening, and by thoſe who lived at a Diſtance, perhaps but once a Year.

But we have ſeen, beſides the Breakfaſtings, an Attempt lately made (*Anno* 1747. in the *Haymarket*) to engage the Mid-day Hours, and very much reſorted to by all Ranks of People; and if it continues to meet with Succeſs, will be followed, no doubt, by

Inventions of the like Kind: and then we ſhall ſacrifice the whole Day to any thing that carries not the Face of Buſineſs and uſeful Employment. And the Eye and the Ear will run away with the reſt of the Senſes.

It may be ſaid, that theſe Diverſions procure many People (But who are the People?) a Living, cauſe a great Circulation of Money, and increaſe the Revenue. And this is a Part of that *Man-Devil* Doctrine, too ſucceſsfully propagated of late Years, *That private Vices are public Benefits*. But is it juſt, that Men ſhould grow rich by any other than honeſt Employments? That the Manners of a Nation ſhould be debauched for the gratifying of private Avarice, or the ſupplying of the Neceſſities, which the Inventors have, perhaps, by their own Extravagance, brought upon themſelves? Does the Nation grow rich by idle Peoples toſſing Money from Hand to Hand? A Nation of Trade and Buſineſs more eſpecially!—If ſo, Gameſters muſt be Patriots!—In the beſt Light that this Argument can be placed in, the Augmentation of the Public Revenue; ought ſuch a Conſideration to take place of INDUSTRY, by which alone the Public can be a durable Gainer?

But it is to be hoped, that theſe Evils are near, if not at, their Height; and that they will ſoon, from the Neceſſity of the Caſe, become a Subject for the Animadverſion of a *Britiſh* Parliament.

In ſhort, there is an incredible Number of fine Houſes built in all theſe Towns within theſe few Years, which in other Places would paſs, in a manner, for Palaces; and moſt of the Poſſeſſors whereof keep Coaches.

Among theſe are the late Lord *Peterborough*'s at *Parſons-green*; Lord *Halifax*'s at *Buſhy-park*; Earl of *Strafford*'s, Earl of *Shrewſbury*'s, Earl of *Burlington*'s, both at *Sutton-Court*, and *Chiſwick*; Mr. *Barker*'s,

Barker's, Lord *Wilmington*'s, General *Whetham*'s, *Holland-houſe* near *Kenſington* above-mentioned; the late Secretary *Johnſon*'s, at *Twickenham*; and Multitudes of others.

But I muſt not paſs over ſo ſlightly, the noble Seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of *Burlington*'s, at *Chiſwick*, which was a plain uſeful Houſe, with a Number of good Offices about it: but as a Part of the old Houſe was deſtroy'd ſome Years ago by Fire, his Lordſhip erected a beautiful Villa near to the old Houſe; which, for Elegance of Taſte, ſurpaſſes every thing of its kind in *England*, if not in *Europe*. The Court in Front of the Houſe is of a proportionable Size to the Building, which is gravelled, and kept always very neat. On each Side are Yew Hedges, in Panels, with *Termini*, placed at proper Diſtance; in Front of which are planted two Rows of Cedars of *Libanus*, which at preſent have a fine Effect to the Eye, at a ſmall Diſtance from the Houſe; for the dark Shade of theſe ſolemn evergreen Trees occaſions a fine Contraſt with the elegant white Building which appears between them.

The Aſcent to the Houſe is by a noble Flight of Stone Steps, on one Side of which is the Statue of *Inigo Jones*, and on the other that of *Palladio*. The Portico is ſupported by fine fluted Pillars, of the *Corinthian* Order, and the Cornice, Frize, and Architrave, are as rich as poſſible; ſo that the Front of this Building ſtrikes every Perſon (tho' not a nice Judge of Architecture) with uncommon Pleaſure.

The other Front towards the Garden is plainer; but yet is very bold and grand, having a pleaſing Simplicity, as hath alſo the Side-front, toward the *Serpentine River*, which is different from the other Two.

The Inſide of the Houſe is finiſhed in the higheſt Taſte, the Ceilings being richly gilt and painted;

and

and the Rooms are filled with ſome of the beſt Pictures in *Europe*; and tho' the Houſe is ſmall, yet it would take up more Room than can be allowed here, to deſcribe the particular Beauties of it.

The Gardens are alſo laid out in an elegant Taſte. When you deſcend from the Houſe, you enter on a Lawn of Graſs, planted with Clumps of ever-green Trees, between which are two Rows of large Stone Vaſes. At the Ends next the Houſe, are two fine Wolves in Stone, cut by Mr. *Sceidmaker* the famous Statuary: and at the farther End are two large Lions; and to terminate this View are three fine antique Statues, which were dug up in *Adrian*'s Garden at *Rome*, with Stone Seats between each; and on the Back of the Statues is a cloſe Plantation of Ever-greens, which terminates the Proſpect.

On the Right-hand, as you go from the Houſe, you look thro' an open Grove of Foreſt-trees, to the Orangery; which is ſeparated from the Lawn by a Fauſſee, to ſecure the Orange-trees from being injured by Perſons who are admitted to walk in the Garden; ſo that they are ſeen as perfectly, and when the Orange-trees are in Flower, the Scent is diffuſed over the whole Lawn to the Houſe, as if the Trees were placed on the Lawn.

On the Left-hand you have an eaſy Slope of Graſs down to the Serpentine River, on the Side of which are Clumps of Ever-greens, which make agreeable Breaks to the Eye, between which the Water is ſeen; and at the farther End is a Peep into an Incloſure, where are an Obeliſk and a *Roman* Temple, with Graſs Slopes, and a circular Piece of Water in the Middle.

From this Lawn you are led to the Wilderneſs, through which are three ſtrait Avenues, terminated by three different Buildings; and within the Quarters

are Serpentine Walks, thro' which you may walk near a Mile in conſtant Shade.

On each Side the Serpentine River are Graſs Walks, which follow the Turns of the River; and on the Right-hand of the River is a Building, which is the exact Model of the Portico of *Covent-Garden* Church; and on the Left is a Wilderneſs, which is laid out in regular Walks, with clipp'd Hedges on each Side, which is too mean for the other Parts of the Garden; and it is much to be wondered his Lordſhip ſhould ſuffer them to remain in the preſent Form.

Over the River, in the middle Part, is a *Palladian* Bridge of Wood, which his Lordſhip croſſes in his Coach, to come round to the Houſe; for there is a Coach Road thro' the Garden, by which his Lordſhip paſſes when he comes from *London*, ſo that the Earl ſeldom goes thro' the Town of *Chiſwick* to his Houſe.

At the End of the River, next the Road, is a fine Caſcade, where by an Engine to raiſe the Water, his Lordſhip propoſed to have a conſtant Fall into the River; but the Engine failing, it is but ſeldom the Caſcade can play, and then but for a ſhort time.

Next the Road, his Lordſhip has raiſed a Terrace (with the Earth which came out of the River), from whence you have a Proſpect of the adjacent Country; and when the Tide is up, you ſee the Water of the *Thames*, with the Boats and Barges paſſing, which greatly enlivens the Proſpect. In a word, there is more Variety in this Garden, than can be found in any other of the ſame Size in *England*, or perhaps in *Europe*.

In the Village of *Hamerſmith*, which was formerly a long ſcattering Place, full of Gardeners Grounds, with here and there an old Houſe of ſome Bulk, we ſee now a continued Range of a great Length.

And

And at *North-End*, near it, are the handſome Houſe and finely diſpoſed Gardens, of the late Sir *John Stanley*, Bart. a Gentleman of equal Honour, Politeneſs, Learning, and Knowlege; which fine Qualities, and his beneficent Mind, and Charities, made him an Ornament to the Age he lived in, and, tho' he dy'd in a good old Age, infinitely regretted by all who had the Honour of his Acquaintance. This beautiful Houſe and Gardens are now in the Poſſeſſion of *William Monk*, Eſq; Nephew of Sir *John*, who bequeathed them to him.

I have now travers'd the beſt Part of *Middleſex*, a County made rich, pleaſant, and populous, by the Neighbourhood of *London*. The Borders of the County have Three Market-towns, *Stanes*, *Colbrook*, and *Uxbridge*: this laſt is a pleaſant large Town, full of good Inns, as the others are, and famous, in particular, for having abundance of fine Seats of Gentlemen, and Perſons of Quality, in the Neighbourhood; and alſo for a vain Attempt made in the great Civil War, to ſettle the Peace of theſe Nations by a Treaty here. I ſhould never have done, were I to pretend to deſcribe, tho' ever ſo ſlightly, the large Towns on both Sides the River; as

Lambeth,	*Roehampton*,	*Iſleworth*,
Batterſea,	*Hamerſmith*,	*Twickenham*,
Wandſworth,	*Mortlack*,	*Padington*,
Fulham,	*Brentford*,	*Acton*,
Putney,	*Kew*,	*Ealing*,
Barnet,	*Richmond*,	And others,

All crouded and ſurrounded with fine Houſes, or rather Palaces, of the Nobility, Quality, and Gentry of *England*.

But I ſhould be guilty of a great Neglect, if I paſſed by that equally elegant and noble Structure, called *Gunnerſbury-houſe*.

It is ſituated near *Ealing*, between the two great Weſtern Roads, and ſtands on an Eminence, the Ground falling gradually from it to the *Brentford* Road; ſo that from the Portico in the Back-front of the Houſe, you have an exceeding fine Proſpect of the County of *Surry*, the River of *Thames*, and all the Meadows on the Borders for ſome Miles, as alſo, in clear Weather, a good View of *London*. This Houſe was built by Mr. *Web*, who was Son-in-law to the famous *Inigo Jones*; and, indeed, the Architecture ſhews, that if it was not plann'd by that celebrated Architect himſelf, it was deſigned by ſome Scholar of his; for altho' the Building is as plain as poſſible, yet there is a ſimple Boldneſs in it, which graces all the Works of that excellent Artiſt, rarely to be found in thoſe of other Architects.

The Apartments in the Houſe are extremely convenient, and well contrived. The Hall is very large, having Rows of Columns on each Side. From thence you aſcend, by a noble Flight of Stairs, to a Salon, which is a double Cube of twenty-five Feet. This Room the preſent Poſſeſſor *Henry Furneſe*, Eſq; is fitting up in a moſt elegant Taſte; and he is poſſeſſed of a fine Collection of capital Pictures; with which he propoſes to hang this Room intirely; and which, when finiſhed, will render it one of the fineſt Rooms in *England*.

From this Room is the Entrance to the Portico on the Back-front of the Houſe, which is ſupported by Columns, and is a delightful Place to ſit in, during the Afternoon, in the Summer-ſeaſon; for, as it faces the South Eaſt, the Sun ſhines on it no longer than Two of the Clock; but, extending its Beams over the Country, which is open to the View, renders the Proſpect very delightful.

On going out of the Houſe into the Garden, you aſcend a noble Terrace, the whole Width of the Garden,

Garden, whence you have a fine Survey of the neighbouring Country, and on which you may walk dry after the greateſt Rains. From this Terrace you deſcend to the Garden by a beautiful Flight of Stone Steps, the upper Part of which is concave, with a grand Stone Baluſtrade on each Side, as alſo on the Coping of the Wall the Length of the Houſe, which makes a fine Appearance from the Road: but the Gardens are laid out too plain, having the Walls in View on every Side; and at preſent the Offices are too mean for the Houſe, which I hear the preſent Poſſeſſor intends to alter in a moſt elegant Taſte.

There are but Three more Market-towns in *Middleſex*, viz. *Brentford*, the County-town, *Edgware*, and *Enfield*; the Neighbourhoods of all which are adorned with Seats of the Gentry, many of which might deſerve a particular Deſcription, had I Room to give it.

And now I enter the County of *Hertford*, a fruitful Soil, as it is managed; for 'tis certain, it is more indebted, for its Fertility, to the Sagacity and Induſtry of the Huſbandman, than to Nature. Rich Meadows are ſeldom found here; for it affords not any large Rivers: the Arable hath generally too much Gravel, or too much Clay; but theſe laſt cold and wet Lands have been within theſe forty Years greatly improv'd by draining off the Rain-water, which ſtagnated on the clayey Surface, as in a Cup, and chilled the Roots of the Corn; an Invention, called *Buſh-draining*.

The County is well-water'd for the Conveniency of the Inhabitants; tho' the *Lea* is the only navigable Stream in it, which has its Riſe in *Bedfordſhire*; of which more anon. But this County aſſumes the Honour of giving Riſe to ſeveral Rivers, *viz.* the Pariſh of *Tring* to the *Thames*, which leaving the

County at *Putenham*, goes by *Ayleſbury* to *Thame*, and thence by *Wheatley-bridge* to *Dorcheſter*, and falls into the *Iſis*.

The County may be divided into three Parts pretty equal, by Two great Roads, one Part lying between the North Road, which goes thro' *Hertford* to *Nottingham*, &c. and the Borders of *Cambridgeſhire* North, and thoſe of *Eſſex* Eaſt. Another Part lying between that Road and the other, which leads thro' *St. Albans* to *Coventry* and *Cheſter*; and the third lying between this laſt Road, and the Borders of *Middleſex* South, and thoſe of *Bucks* Weſt.

I ſhall begin with the laſt at *Eaſt-Barnet*, a Thoroughfare-town of Note, and well ſupplied with Inns: it lies high and pleaſant, and was formerly frequented for its medicinal Waters, and now for its Swine-market. It has in its Neighbourhood ſeveral very handſome Houſes of the *Londoners*, and which are the more pleaſant by being ſo near the Chace.

Totteridge is near it alſo, and is a very pleaſant Village. It is ſituated on a fine Eminence, looking to the North, over the *St. Albans* Road into the Foreſt; and on the South, over the *Edgware* Road, to *Harrow*, &c. It is very clean, and has ſeveral very good Houſes in it. The Road from *Hampſtead*, here, is extremely pleaſant, and ſo well repaired, that in the worſt Seaſon there is ſcarce any Water or Dirt remaining in it; and as it lies not on any great Road, there are no heavy Carriages paſſing that Way; therefore a ſmall Expence annually, well laid out, will always keep this Road in excellent Repair.

Cheaping-Barnet lies a little North, in the *St. Albans* Road; and is remarkable for the deciſive Battle fought there on *Eaſter-day* 1468. between the Houſes of *York* and *Lancaſter*, in which the great Earl of *Warwick*, ſtyled *Make-king*, was killed, with many of the prime Nobility, and 10,000 Men. The Place ſuppoſed

poſed to be the Field of Battle, is a green Spot near *Kicks-end*, between *St. Albans* and *Hatfield* Roads, a little before they meet. And here, *Anno* 1740. a Stone Column was erected, on which is a long Inſcription, giving a particular Account of that Battle. The Manor is in the Property of the Duke of *Chandos*. A handſome Row of Six Alms-houſes, for ſo many Widows, founded by *James Ravenſcroft*, Eſq; in 1672. with a little Furniture to each, is in the Street. Queen *Elizabeth* built a Free School-houſe of Brick in the ſame Street, where nine Children are taught *gratis*, and all other Boys at five Shillings the Quarter.

About two Miles N. W. from hence, on the Left-hand, lies *Durhams*, formerly the Seat of the *Auſtins*, but is now the Property of the Earl of *Albemarle*, who purchaſed it of Sir *John Auſtin*, and has ſince greatly beautified the Seat, by laying moſt of the neighbouring Fields belonging to the Eſtate, into a Park, and turning and repairing of the Roads. The Houſe ſtands on an Eminence, ſituated in a ſmall Valley, ſurrounded with pretty high Hills at a little Diſtance, ſo that in the Summer Months it is an agreeable Retirement: but the Soil all round it being a ſtrong Clay, all the Rain which falls in Winter being detained on the Surface, renders the Situation very cold and moiſt. Add to this the want of good Water and Timber near the Houſe (except the young Trees, which have been planted by his Lordſhip); and, upon the Whole, it cannot be eſteemed a good Seat.

Idleſtrey or *Elſtre*, is a Village on the *Roman Watling-ſtreet*, on the very Edge of *Middleſex*; but it is chiefly noted for its Situation, near *Brockly-hill*, by *Stanmore*, which affords a lovely View croſs *Middleſex*, over the *Thames*, into *Surry*. Near this is *Kendale* Wood, where formerly was found an old

Flint Wall, ſo hard as not to yield to the Strokes of the Pick-ax; as likewiſe an Oven. Mr. *Philpot* digging his Canal, and Foundations for his Buildings, upon the Spot of the old City *Suellaniacis*, found many Coins, Urns, and other Antiquities. They have a Proverb here, relating to the Antiquities:

No Heart can think, nor Tongue can tell,
What lies 'tween Brockley-hill *and* Pennywel.

Pennywel is a Parcel of Cloſes acroſs the Valley beyond *Brockley-hill*, where Foundations are diſcernible, and where, they ſay, has been a City.

About two Miles farther Weſt lies *Watford*, a Market-town, ſeventeen Miles from *London*, upon the *Colne*, where it hath two Streams, which run ſeparately to *Rickmerſworth*. Several Alms-houſes belong to this Town, and an handſome Free-ſchool, built in 1704. and finiſhed 1709. by *Elizabeth Fuller*, Widow; and in the Church are ſeveral handſome Monuments. The Town is very long, having but one Street, which is the public, and ſo is extremely dirty in Winter; and the Waters of the River, at the Entrance of the Town, are often ſo much ſwelled by Floods, as to be unpaſſable; and the Bridge deſigned as the Road at ſuch times, is ſo much out of Repair, that it is very dangerous for any Carriages of Burden to paſs over it; which is a very great Diſadvantage to the Town.

Caſſioberry, the Seat of the Earl of *Eſſex*, is the next thing that occurs worth notice, and is elegant. The Situation is the beſt in the County, upon a dry Spot, within a Park of a large Extent: the Houſe is built in Form of an H: the Middle and the Eaſt Wing is modern, and in good Repair; but the Weſt Wing is very old, and by no means correſponding with the other Parts of the Houſe. The Front faces the South-eaſt, and looks directly on the Houſe in

More-

More-Park, on which the late Mr. *Stiles* expended ſuch great Sums of Money, and which has a noble Look from *Caſſioberry-Houſe*. In the Front of the Houſe is a fine dry Lawn of Graſs, which immediately after the heavieſt Winter Rains may be rode or walked on, as on the drieſt Downs; and a little below the Houſe is a River, which winds through the Park, and in the drieſt Seaſons conſtantly runs with a fine Stream, affording great Plenty of Trout, Crayfiſh, and indeed moſt other Kinds of Freſh-water Fiſh. On the North and Eaſt Sides of the Houſe are large Wood-walks, which were planted by the famous *Le Notre*, in the Reign of *Charles* II. The Woods have many large Beech and Oak-trees in them; but the principal Walks are planted with Lime-trees, and theſe are moſt of them too narrow for their Length, and too regular for the modern Taſte. On the other Side of the River, the Ground riſes to a conſiderable Height, which affords an agreeable Variety; Part of which being covered with ſtately Woods, appearing at a proper Diſtance from the Front of the Houſe, have a fine Effect to the Eye. In ſhort, the whole Spot (if a ſmall Expence was beſtowed to improve and put it more in the modern Taſte) would be one of the fineſt Places near *London*.

Near *Caſſioberry* is a pleaſant Seat, purchaſed by the late Lord *Raymond*, called *Langleybury*.

Rickmerſworth is a Market-town, within three or four Miles Weſt of *Watford*. It gave Birth to Sir *Thomas White*, Merchant-Taylor of *London*, who founded *Glouceſter-Hall*, and *St. John's-College* in *Oxford*. Here are two Alms-houſes, one for four, the other for five Widows.

We viſited in this Neighbourhood *More-Park*, with a fine Houſe in it, of the late Duke of *Monmouth*, ſtanding upon the Side of the Hill, facing *Caſſioberry*, on the other Side of the River. It has been

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allowed one of the beſt Pieces of Brick-work in *England*. Sir *William Temple* commends the Garden as one of the beſt laid-out in *England*. The Ducheſs of *Monmouth*, on whom it was ſettled by Marriage, ſold it in 1720. to *Benjamin Heskins Stiles*, Eſq; who built a South Front of Stone with Colonnades, by which an Opening was made thro' the Hill that once obſtructed its View toward *Uxbridge*. A North Front was alſo erected, and the Hill towards *Watford* cut thro' for a Viſta. In digging this Hill, Veins of Seaſand, with Muſcles in it, were found.

Abbots-Langley, 22 Miles from *London*, ſituated about three Miles North of *Caſſioberry*, in a good Air and Soil, is remarkable for the Birth of an *Engliſh* Pope, *Nicolas Brakeſpear*, by the Title of *Adrian* IV. The Emperor *Frederic* held his Stirrup, while he diſmounted. He was choaked, as ſome ſay, by a Fiſh, and, as others, by a Quinſy: but it is an indeleble Stain on his Memory, that, when ſovereign Pontiff, he ſuffer'd his Mother to be maintain'd by the Alms of the Church of *Canterbury*.

We proceeded to *Kings-Langley*, ſo called, becauſe *Henry* III. built himſelf a Royal Houſe here, of which the Ruins ſtill exiſt: and here was born and buried *Edmund de Langley*, Duke of *York*, fifth Son of *Edward* III. and his Wife *Iſabel*, youngeſt Daughter of Don *Pedro*, King of *Caſtile*, was alſo buried here, and the Tomb is in the Church of this Place.

We next went to *Hempſted*, a little further North, and about 23 Miles from *London*, a Bailiwick Corporate Town. It has the greateſt Corn-market in the County, or perhaps in *England*; in which 20,000*l.* a Week are frequently returned for Meal only. Eleven Pair of Mills ſtand within four Miles of the Place, which bring a great Trade to it: but the Road is by this means ſo continually torn, that it is one of the worſt Turnpikes round about *London*.

A little

A little North of *Hempſted* we turn'd Weſt, and came to *Great Barkhamſted*, about 24 computed Miles from *London*. It is a very antient Town, which for many Hundreds of Years has been one of the Crown Manors, which granted to it many very ample Privileges. It is now annexed to the Dukedom of *Cornwall*, and as ſuch appropriated to the Princes of *Wales*. The Caſtle and Manor are at preſent held by Leaſe from the Prince by *Edward Carey*, Eſq; which was obtained by his Anceſtors of Queen *Elizabeth*.

Barkhamſted has evidently been a *Roman* Town, by the Name of *Durobrivæ*; and probably the Caſtle ſtands upon a *Roman* Foundation. *Roman* Coins are frequently dug up there. It is moſt pleaſantly inviron'd with high and hard Ground, full of Hedgerows, Paſtures, and Arable, tho' ſituated upon the South-ſide of a Marſh. It extends itſelf far in handſome Buildings, and a broad Street. In the Time of the Heptarchy, it was the Reſidence of the Kings of *Mercia*; and here *Wightred*, King of *Kent* and *Mercia*, in the Year 697. held a Parliament: here alſo King *Ina*'s Laws were publiſhed.

The Caſtle was judiciouſly ſet on the North-ſide of the Town, on dry Ground, among Springs, and made exceedingly ſtrong by the *Saxons*. It was rebuilt by *Moreton*, Earl of *Cornwall*, Brother to *William the Conqueror*, and raſed for Rebellion in his Son's Time, and ſo, with the Manor, fell to the Crown. *Henry* II. kept his Court here, and granted great Privileges to the Place. The Caſtle was afterwards rebuilt, as it is thought, in the Reign of King *John*; for the Dauphin of *France*, in Conjunction with the Barons, beſieg'd it, and the Defendants ſurrender'd not till they had the King's Orders for it.

When the Caſtle was demoliſh'd, a large Houſe was built out of its Ruins, which is beautifully ſitu-

ated. What now remains of it is but the third Part, and the Back of the great Houſe; for the other two Thirds were deſtroyed by Fire, in the Reign of *Charles* I. It was in K. *James*'s Time a Nurſery for that Prince's Children; and Prince *Henry* and Prince *Charles* were bred up there; and in the Time of the Grand Rebellion, Colonel *Axtel*, a Parliament-Officer, held it. It is now in the Poſſeſſion of the *Roper* Family.

The Corporation ſunk in the War between the King and Parliament. In King *Charles* II.'s Time an Attempt was made to revive the Charter; but it was dropt. This Body Politic is now reduced to a Skeleton, like the Caſtle; which is only to be known by its Moats and Walls.

The Caſtle contains, within its firſt Moat, four or five Acres. There is again a Diviſion by another Moat. The South Part, conſiſting of about two Acres, is upon a Level with moſt of the outward Walls and Chimneys remaining. Towards the North, acroſs a Moat, is an high Hill, or Keep, capable of defending itſelf againſt the former, if poſſeſſed by an Enemy. The Traces of the Bridge of Communication, and the Moat dividing theſe two Places of Strength, are continued to the grand one, that takes in the whole Scite of the Fortification. The Remains of the Bridge for Entrance from the Town are viſible, anſwering exactly to the other, as the North of the firſt Area, which led to the Hills.

In this Town was the famous Interview between *William the Conqueror* and the *Engliſh* Nobility, in his March towards *London*, after his Victory over *Harold*. He paſſed the *Thames* at *Wallingford*, and was going forward to *St. Albans*, when the ſtout Abbat *Frederic* ſtopp'd his March, by Trees, *&c.* till he could get the *Engliſh* Nobility together, and then he made him ſwear to keep inviolably the good and antient Laws of the Kingdom; yet he took away all

their Lands, and divided them among his hungry *Normans*.

This Town gives Name to the Deanry. The Church is handſome, dedicated to St. *Peter*; it has had many Chapels and Oratories. On the Pillars of the Church are the Eleven Apoſtles, with each of them a Sentence of the Creed, and St. *George* killing a Dragon, on the Twelfth. Theſe were whited over by the Zeal of the late Times, and are but lately come to Light.

The Chapel of *St. John* is uſed only by the Maſter, Uſhers and Scholars of the Free-ſchool. *St. Leonard*'s Hoſpital was at the South-eaſt End of the High-ſtreet, and *St. James*'s Hoſpital at the other End. The free Grammar-ſchool was built by Dean *Incent*, of *St. Paul*'s. It is an handſome brick Structure, with an Apartment at one End for the Maſter, at the other for the Uſher and Chantry-Clerk. It was 20 Years in building.

They have had other large Benefactions, which we have not Room for.

Tring, being 28 computed Miles from *London*, is a ſmall Market-town, ſtanding upon the Extremity of *Hertfordſhire*, next to *Buckinghamſhire*, Eaſt of and near the *Ikening-ſtreet*.

It is very antient, and was formerly a Royal Manor; but now poſſeſſed by *William Gore*, Eſq; who has made a Park of 300 Acres, of which Part is on the *Chiltern*. In it is a beautiful Wood incloſed, lying cloſe to the *Ikening-ſtreet*. Mr. *Gore* has beautified and wainſcoted the Church in a moſt elegant Manner, and gives 20 *l. per Annum* for a Charity-School. The Church is an handſome Pile of Building, with a Ring of ſix Bells. The Chancel was wainſcoted by Sir *Richard Anderſon*. It is decent and capacious, and worthy of a Choir. Both Church and Chancel are paved with Free-ſtone; the Pillars are painted;

painted; the Pulpit and Sounding-board are of fine Inlaid-work; and an handſome Veſtry is under the Belfry.

Among other Monuments is a magnificent one for Sir *William Gore* and his Lady; with Inſcriptions to their Honour.

From *Tring* I paſſed next Eaſtward, and came to *Gadeſden-Little*; where I had heard was a fine Proſpect, and I wanted not Curioſity to ſee it. This Vill has *Cawley-Wood* and *Ivingo-Hills* on the North-weſt, *Aldbury-Cliffs* on the South-weſt, *Dunſtable-Downs* to the North. The Proſpect I mean is from one Part of this Pariſh, to which a Common of fine Turf leads under the Duke of *Bridgwater*'s ſhady Park; and a noble one it is of three Counties, worthy of the Pencil of the greateſt Artiſt in Landſchape.

The Variety of Woods, Cliffs, Arable and Paſture, are charming; but they muſt be tempted to half a Mile's pleaſant Exerciſe to get to the beautiful Scene.

Cawley-Wood, belonging to the Duke of *Bridgwater*, is a ſmall Covert, a Mile from hence, at the Top of a Hill, in *Bucks*, one of the greateſt Landmarks in the South of *England*, which overlooks eleven Counties. It ſtands as a Monument to ſhew, notwithſtanding all the modern Improvements, that Nature will not be outdone by Art.

Now I am on this Subject, I ſhall juſt mention *Penley-lodge*, for a moſt delightful Retirement to a Man who wants to deceive Life, in an Habitation which has all the Charms Nature can give. There is behind a large Common of fine Turf, bounded on a Wood on the Weſt, to which if one aſcend a Quarter of a Mile, he has a View of *Northamptonſhire* and *Warwickſhire*. From the Houſe, a ſemicircular Proſpect of *Bedfordſhire*, *Middleſex*, and *Bucks*; a bended one towards *Ivingo* and *Aldbury-Cliffs*,

Cliffs, with the ſhady Woods of the Dukes of *Leeds* and *Bridgwater* ſeeming to hang over the Rivulet called *Bulborn*.

The Manor of *Aldbury* lies North-eaſt of *Tring*, and in the Way to *Gadeſden*. It belongs to the Duke of *Leeds*, whoſe Father married the Heireſs of the Family of *Hyde*; and ſo does *Muniborough-Hill* lie in the Way from *Aldbury* to *Little-Gadeſden*, and affords a handſome Proſpect.

Aſhridge ſtands near *Albury*, but in *Bucks*, an antient Manſion-houſe, and fine Park, belonging to the Duke of *Bridgwater*.

Gadeſden is famous for the Birth of *John de Gadeſden*, who flouriſhed in the Beginning of the fourteenth Century; the firſt *Engliſhman* who was a Court Phyſician, and of whoſe Skill *Chaucer* makes honourable Mention, in his *Doctor of Phyſic*, prefixed to his *Canterbury Tales*; tho' Dr. *Freind*, from *John*'s own Books, will not allow him to deſerve it. There are ſeveral Monuments in the Chancel of this Church, of the *Bridgwater* Family; whoſe finely ſituated Seat and Park at *Aſhridge*, formerly a Royal Houſe of Pleaſure, and where *Edward* I. held a Parliament in the Nineteenth Year of his Reign, is in this Pariſh, but in the County of *Bucks*. The Duke is Lord of this Manor, as alſo of that of *Great-Gadeſden*.

I croſs'd over a Slip (as I may call it) of *Bucks*, which runs into *Hertfordſhire*, between *Aldbury* and *Kenſworth-Green*, which lies a little South of the Road which leads from *St. Albans* to *Dunſtable*, and is a Situation ſurpriſingly fine, about half a Mile in Length, a good Turf, and level, with *Whipſnape-Woods* on the Back of it, and Rows of high Trees on the other Side. Nothing but Sky is to be ſeen from it one Way; and the other we have only a View of the Top of a Grove, at *Market-Cell*. It ſeems to

claim

claim a Preference of every Place in the County for a Cell, yet never had one on it: it comes very little ſhort of the famous *Guy*'s Cliff, near *Warwick*. There the ſhady Grove, and rolling Stream below it, make a beautiful Scene for Solitude: here the Woods and Trees afford Shade enough, and the pure circumambient Ether, with nothing in View but the Tops of Trees, would make a Hermit think himſelf in another World.

Here I came into the Road, and ſo turned South-eaſt for *St. Albans*, thro'. *Flamſtead* Pariſh, where is a well-built and delightful Seat of Sir *Thomas-Saunders Sebright*, Bart. on a riſing Ground in the Middle of a Park. It is called *Beechwood-Manor*, from the great Number of fine Beech-trees which were formerly growing here, ſome of which are yet remaining on the Sides of the Park. The Soil of this Park is, for the moſt part, dry, the Surface being ſhallow, on a ſtrong or chalky Bottom, which renders the Turf very fine and ſhort, and very pleaſant for the Exerciſe of either Riding or Walking. It was formerly a Nunnery for a Prioreſs and ten Nuns, independent of any other Convent, and then called *St. Giles in the Wood*. A very ſerious Inſcription in *Flamſtead* Church, on a Monument of one of the *Saunders* Family, may be worth tranſcribing, as it certainly is a Piece of ſound Doctrine, in which every living Man may find an Uſe.

" He that looks hereon may conſider how fleet-
" ing all worldly Comforts are, and how great a
" Vanity it is to place his Affection thereon. Such
" Things there are as worldly Comforts, 'tis true;
" but they ought to be looked on as *little Streams*;
" and whoever delights in them, more than in the
" FOUNTAIN from whence they proceed, may ſoon
" find them dry and vaniſhed. The Truth of which
" he that wrote this hath ſenſibly found; and wills

" others

" others to place their Affections chiefly on that OB-
" JECT OF LOVE, which is unchangeable, and is
" the Centre of all true Joy and Felicity."

Purſuing ſtill the ſame Courſe along the great Road, we came next to *St. Albans*, the capital Town of *Hertfordſhire*, famous for deriving its Name from the Protomartyr of *England*, who ſuffered ſo early in the fourth Century. 'Tis governed by a Mayor, ten Burgeſſes, a Steward, and a Chamberlain, and is a peculiar Liberty both for Eccleſiaſtical and Civil Government, and returns two Members to Parliament.

The Town roſe out of the Ruins of old *Verulam*; of which ſo much has been ſaid by Mr. *Camden*, and others, that we refer to them for Particulars. In that great Man's Time, the Ruins afforded much more for the Obſervation of the Curious than now; for they are ſince dug away, for mending the Highways. The firſt *Verulam* was ſtormed and taken by *Julius Cæſar*. And here *Caſſibelan*, a famous *Britiſh* King, then kept his Court. The firſt Deſtruction of the Place is ſuppoſed to have been by *Boadicea*, the famous *Britiſh* Queen, who cut off 70,000 *Romans* in one Battle; and the ſecond (which was erected on the Ruins of the other), in the Wars between the *Britons* and *Saxons*; and almoſt infinite are the Numbers of Antiquities here dug up.

The Origin of *St. Albans* was owing to the Monaſtery built by *Offa*, King of the *Mercians*, to the Memory of St. *Alban*, in Expiation of his barbarous Murder of *Ethelbert*, King of the *Eaſt-Angles*, whom he had treacherouſly inveigled to his Court, on Pretence of marrying his Daughter; and the ſame *Offa* it was that built *Hertford* Cathedral, and dedicated it to St. *Ethelbert*, and made a Journey to *Rome* as further Penance, where he was abſolved, tho' he kept the murdered Prince's Dominions, and joined them to his own.

Of

Of all the Monaſteries in *England*, none could outſhine this. Its Revenue was great, and its Privileges ſtill greater. In the Royalties it had from its Founder, and the Epiſcopal Powers from the Pope, none came up to it. The mitred Abbat had Precedency of all in *England*, and was ſubject to no Eccleſiaſtical Power, but the Pope immediately; and he had Epiſcopal Juriſdiction over both Clergy and Laity, in all the Lands belonging to his Monaſtery. From firſt to laſt they were 41 in Number, and many of them Perſons of great Accompliſhments, and high Birth: the 39th of which, though not high-born, was Cardinal *Wolſey*. The laſt Abbat was *Richard Boreman*, who at the Diſſolution quietly ſurrendered on the Royal Command, and accepted of a Penſion for Life of 266 *l.* 13 *s.* and 4 *d.*

Two bloody Battles were fought near this Place, between the Houſes of *York* and *Lancaſter*: the firſt upon the 23d of *May* 1455. in which the *Yorkiſts* got the Day; the ſecond on *Shrove-Tueſday*, in the 39th of *Henry* VI. when the martial Queen *Margaret* overcame the *Yorkiſts*, who had then the King in their Power, and fought under the Sanction of his Name.

But we muſt not diſmiſs this Subject, without giving ſome brief Particulars of the famous Abbey-Church. We have before obſerved, that it was founded by King *Offa*; but it has been rebuilt in Whole or Part ſeveral times. The Town purchaſed it at the Diſſolution, for 400 *l.* which prevented ſo noble a Fabric being pulled down, and torn to Pieces, for making Money of the Materials; and it is made a Pariſh-Church for the Borough. The High Altar is a curious Piece of *Gothic* Architecture.

Within the North Entrance is *Offa* on his Throne. Underneath,

Fundator

Fundator Eccleſiæ circa annum 793.

Quem male depictum, et reſidentem cernitis alte
Sublimem ſolio, MERCIUS OFFA *fuit.*

That is:

The Founder of the Church, about the Year 793.
Whom you behold ill-painted, on his Throne
Sublime, was once for MERCIAN OFFA known.

In the moſt Eaſtern Part of the Church ſtood the Shrine: ſix Holes remain in the Pavement, where the Supporters of it were fixed. This Inſcription is ſtill to be ſeen:

S. ALBANUS VEROLAMENSIS, ANGLORUM PROTOMARTYR, 17. Junii 293.

On the South Side of the Shrine, in the Wall of the South Iſle, is Duke HUMPHRY's Monument, with the Arms of *France* and *England* quartered, and a ducal Coronet. In Niches on the South Side are 17 Kings; the Niches on the other Side have none remaining.

Piæ Memoriæ V. Opt. Sacrum.

Hic jacet HUMPHREDUS, *Dux ille Gloceſtrius olim,*
Henrici ſexti Protector, fraudis ineptæ
Detector, dum ficta notat miracula cæci.
Lumen erat Patriæ, Columen venerabile Regni,
Pacis amans, Muſiſque favens melioribus; unde
Gratum opus Oxonio, quæ nunc Schola ſacra refulget.
Invida ſed mulier regno, regi, ſibi nequam,
Abſtulit hunc, humili vix hoc dignata Sepulcro.
Invidia rumpente tamen, poſt funera vivet.

In Engliſh *thus:*

Sacred to the pious Memory of an excellent Man.
Interr'd within this conſecrated Ground
Lies he, whom *Henry* his Protector found,

Good

Good *Humphry*, *Glo'ſter*'s Duke, who well could ſpy
Fraud couch'd within the blind Impoſtor's Eye *.
His Country's Light, the State's rever'd Support,
Who Peace, and riſing Learning, deign'd to court;
Whence his rich Library, at *Oxford* plac'd,
Her ample Schools with ſacred Influence grac'd:
Yet fell beneath an envious Woman's Wile,
Both to herſelf, her King, and Kingdom, vile;
Who ſcarce allow'd his Bones this Spot of Land:
Yet, ſpite of Envy, ſhall his Glory ſtand.

It is not 40 Years ago, that, digging for a Grave, the Stairs, leading down to the Vault where the Body lies, were diſcovered.

In the Vault is a leaden Coffin, with the Body preſerved by the Pickle it lies in, except the Legs, from which the Fleſh is waſted, the Pickle of that End being dried up. On the Wall at the Eaſt End of the Vault is a Crucifix painted, with a Cup on each Side of the Head; another at the Side, and a fourth at the Feet. The Vault is very neat, and hath no offenſive Smell. The Coffin, we are told, had an Outſide of Wood, which is intirely gone.

The Weſt End of the Choir hath a noble Piece of *Gothic* Workmanſhip, for the Ornament of the High Altar. Capt. *Polehampton*, about 40 Years ago, gave an Altar-piece, which repreſents the laſt Supper.

There are many curious Medals and Coins to be ſeen in the Church, which have been dug out of the Ruins of old *Verulam*.

This noble Fabric hath wanted its Abbat's Zeal, and Purſe too, for Repairs, ſince it hath been a Pariſh-Church. The Roof was preſerved by Contribution of the Nobility and Gentry of *England*, many of whoſe Arms are put up on this Occaſion; and Money

* Alluding to a pretended miraculous Cure of a blind Man, detected by the Duke.

has

has been collected ſeveral times beſides for its Support: indeed ſuch a fine Fabric muſt too often ſtand in need of ſuch Helps, as there is no ſettled Fund to maintain it.

There are three Churches in the Town at preſent, beſides the Abbey-Church, *viz.* *St. Michael*'s abovementioned, *St. Peter*'s, and *St. Stephen*'s.

There were alſo formerly belonging to this Town *St. German*'s Chapel, *St. Mary Magdalen*'s Chapel, *St. Julian*'s Hoſpital, the Hoſpital of *St. Mary des Prees*, the Nunnery of *Sopwell*, &c. But they are all demoliſhed and ſecularized. There was alſo in the Town the Pariſh-Church of *St. Andrew*; but that had dropped down before the Diſſolution.

Near this Place was *Sopwell* Nunnery, where they ſay King *Henry* was married to *Anne* of *Bolen*. In the Heart of the adjoining Corporation ſtood one of Queen *Eleanor*'s Croſſes, demoliſhed by the Inhabitants.

In the Neighbourhood of *St. Albans* is *Gorhambury*; where is a Statue of King *Henry* VIII. with other things worthy a Traveller's Curioſity. It is now the Seat of the Lord *Grimſton*: but what it will be always moſt famous for, is, that the Manor is the paternal Eſtate of that Mirror of all Ages, and Ornament of his Country, for Learning, *Francis Bacon*, created Lord *Verulam*, and Viſcount of *St. Albans*, once Lord Chancellor of *England*, who firſt revived Experimental Philoſophy; of whoſe Merits, Riſe, and Fall, we ſhall ſay nothing, but refer our Readers to his Life, written by the ingenious Mr. *Mallet*. Sir *Thomas Meautys*, who had been the Secretary of this wonderful Man, and to whom he conveyed this Eſtate, in Gratitude, erected a Monument for him in *St. Michael*'s Church in this Town, ſitting thoughtfully in an Elbow-chair.

The Monument bears this Inſcription:

Franciſc.

Franciſc. Bacon, *Baro de* Verulam, Sti. Albani *Viceco:*
Seu notioribus Titulis,
Scientiarum Lumen, Facundiæ Lex,
Sic ſedebat.
Qui, poſtquam omnia Naturalis Sapientiæ
Et Civilis Arcana evolviſſet,
Naturæ Decretum explevit,
Compoſita ſolvantur,
An. Dom. 1626. *Ætat.* 66.
Tanti Viri Mem. Thomas Meautys, *Superſtitis Cultor;*
Defuncti Admirator.

Thus tranſlated:

Francis Bacon, Baron of *Verulam*, and Viſcount of *St. Albans*; or by his more known Titles, The Light of the Sciences, and the Law of Eloquence; was thus accuſtomed to ſit; who, after having unravelled all the Myſteries of Natural and Civil Wiſdom, fulfilled the Decree of Nature, *That Things joined ſhould be looſed*, in the Year of our Lord 1626. and of his Age 66.

To the Memory of ſo great a Man, this was erected by *Thomas Meautys*, who reverenced him while living, and admires him dead.

The Manor of *Kingſbury* was ſometime the Reſidence of the *Saxon* Monarchs, whence its Name. It had a Caſtle, which was kept up till King *Stephen*'s Time, when it was demoliſh'd, and the Site given to the Abbey.

The Ducheſs Dowager of *Marlborough* hath a Seat here, built by the late Duke upon the River *Verlam*, which runs thro' the Garden; and who alſo built handſome Alms-houſes at the Entrance of the Town.

The following remarkable Inſcription and Character is cut upon the Pedeſtal of a fine Statue of the late

late Queen *Anne*, carved by the noted Mr. *Ryſbrack*, and erected at *St. Albans*, at the Expence of the Ducheſs, in Gratitude to the Memory of that excellent Princeſs:

'QUEEN *ANNE* was very graceful and ma-
'jeſtic in her Perſon: Religious without Af-
'fectation. She always meant well. She had no
'falſe Ambition; which appeared, by her never
'complaining at King *William*'s being preferred to
'the Crown before her, when it was taken from the
'King her Father, for following ſuch Counſels, and
'purſuing ſuch Meaſures, as rendered the Revo-
'lution neceſſary. It was her greateſt Affliction, to
'be forced to act againſt him, even for Security.
'Her Journey to *Nottingham* was never concerted,
'but occaſioned by the great Conſternation ſhe was
'under at the King's ſudden Return from *Saliſbury*.

'She always paid the greateſt Reſpect to King
'*William* and Queen *Mary*; never inſiſted upon any
'one Circumſtance of Grandeur, more than what
'was eſtabliſhed in her Family by King *Charles* II.
'tho', after the Revolution, ſhe was preſumptive
'Heir to the Crown, and, after the Death of her
'Siſter, was in the place of Prince of *Wales*.

'Upon her Acceſſion to the Throne, the Civil
'Liſt was not increaſed. The late Earl of *Godol-*
'*phin*, Lord High Treaſurer of *England*, often ſaid,
'that, from Accidents in the Cuſtoms, and Lenity
'in the Collection, it did not ariſe; one Year with
'another, to more than five hundred thouſand Pounds
'a Year.

'She had no Vanity in her Expences, nor bought
'any one Jewel in the whole Time of her Reign.

'She paid out of her Civil Liſt many Penſions
'granted in former Reigns, which have ſince been
'thrown upon the Public.

'When

'When a War was neceſſary to ſecure *Europe* 'againſt the Power of *France*, ſhe contributed, in 'one Year, towards the War, out of her Civil Liſt, 'one hundred thouſand Pounds, in Eaſe of her Sub-'jects.

'She granted the Revenue ariſing from the Firſt 'Fruits, to augment the Proviſions of the poorer 'Clergy.

'She never refuſed her private Charity to proper 'Objects.

'Till a few Years before her Death, ſhe never 'had but twenty thouſand Pounds a Year for her 'Privy-Purſe. At the latter End of her Reign, it 'did not exceed twenty-ſix thouſand Pounds a Year; 'which was much to her Honour, becauſe it is ſub-'ject to no Account. And as to her Robes, it will 'appear by the Records in the Exchequer, that in 'nine Years ſhe ſpent only thirty-two thouſand and 'fifty Pounds, including the Coronation Expence.

'She was extremely well-bred, treated her chief 'Ladies and Servants as if they had been her Equals. 'Her Behaviour to all that approached her was de-'cent, and full of Dignity, and ſhewed Condeſcen-'ſion, without Art or Meanneſs.

'*All this I know to be true.*

'SARAH MARLBOROUGH.

'M.DCC.XXXVIII.'

At *Colney* is a very handſome Seat of Sir *Henry Pope Blunt*'s, ſtanding about a Quarter of a Mile North of the Road. It ſeems to be very large; and the Fields and Meadows about it make it very pleaſant in Summer.

Having thus gone over the firſt Part I propoſed of this Country, which lies South and South-weſt of *St. Albans* Road, I ſhall now bend my Courſe North-eaſt towards *Hertford*, and from thence North-weſt,

to

to take in ſuch Part of the middle Diviſion as lies between the two capital Roads on that Side of *Hertford*; reſerving that which lies Eaſt of it, for my Return towards *London*.

The next Town in my Way is *Hatfield*, 17 computed Miles from *London*: it is a Market-town; but much more famous is *Hatfield-houſe*, which lies near it; from whence *Edward* VI. and Queen *Elizabeth*, were both conducted to the Throne, having reſided here for ſome time. King *James* made an Exchange of this Manor in the fourth Year of his Reign, for that of *Theobalds*, as hereafter mentioned, with Sir *Robert Cecil*, afterwards Earl of *Salisbury*, who built this magnificent Houſe, and made the Vineyard in the Park, thro' which the River *Lee* hath its Courſe, adorning that Garden. The Rectory of *Hatfield* is eſteemed one of the beſt in *England*; *Winwich* in *Lancaſhire*, and another in *Durham*, have larger Revenues; but this has a better Situation.

Saundridge, which lies a little North-weſt of *Hatfield*, deſerves to be mentioned, as it gave Title of Baron to the great Duke of *Marlborough*; and belonged to his Dowager, a Deſcendent of the Family of *Jennings*, of this Place. But one thing muſt be obſerved withal, that when I was there laſt, the Steeple lay buried in its own Rubbiſh, as it had done for 40 Years together; and the Bells hung in the Church behind the Door; and this, I ſuppoſe, continues to be its preſent State.

North-Myms ſtands a little Eaſt of *Colney*, and is remarkable for having in its Neighbourhood the Seat of the late Sir *Joſeph Jekyll*, Maſter of the Rolls, in Right of his Lady, who was Heir to her late Brother the great Lord *Somers*. It has a moſt delightful Proſpect. The Body of that noble Lord lies interred in the Chancel of the Church here, without any Inſcription, in Alluſion, as one would expect, to his

Motto, *Prodeſſe quam conſpici.* This Seat is now the Property of his Grace the Duke of *Leeds* (who has put a great Part of the Houſe and Gardens in good Repair), and is his Retirement from *London*, during any ſhort Interval that may happen in the Seſſions of Parliament.

We come now to *Hertford*, the County-town, 20 computed Miles from *London*; a Corporation, governed by a Mayor and Burgeſſes. It is pleaſantly ſituated in a wholſome Air, and a dry Vale, having a good weekly Market well ſtored with Corn, and all ſort of Proviſions. It is very antient, and is built in the Form of a Y, with a Caſtle in the Middle of the two Horns. It contains ſeveral Streets and Lanes, well filled with handſome new-built Houſes. In *Edward* III.'s Time, it had petitioned to be diſburdened of the Expence of ſending two Members to Parliament, on their Inability to pay their Repreſentatives Wages: but 21 *Jac.* I. they petitioned to be reſtored to their Right, and ſucceeded.

There is a free Grammar-ſchool for the Children of this Town, erected by *Richard Hale*, Eſq; in King *James* I.'s Reign. The Houſe, being rebuilt a few Years ago, is a very good one. Of the five Churches *Hertford* once had, there are but two remaining, *viz.* *All Saints* and *St. Andrew*'s.

Near *Hertford* is a Seat of the late Governor *Harriſon* ſituated on an Hill, which commands a Proſpect of the Country round it, as is likewiſe, in its Neighbourhood, a Seat of the *Clarks*, very delightfully ſituated too.

The Earl *Cowper* has an handſome Seat near *Hertingfordbury*, in the Neighbourhood of *Hertford*, built by his Father the great Lord High Chancellor of that Name; who erected in the Church-yard a Tomb for his Mother, with an Inſcription to her Honour: in this Church-yard is alſo the Tomb of Mrs.

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Culling, Heireſs of a Family of that Name.

Welwyn deſerves to be mentioned for its Spaw, now newly revived by the Reverend and Learned Dr. *Edw. Young (a)*, ſo famed for his excellent Compoſitions, that it will be as much the Honour of this Village to have had him for ſo many Years its Miniſter, as it will be to the Diſcredit of People of Power and Intereſt, that he was not called forth to adorn the higheſt eccleſiaſtical Dignity.

The Waters have the ſame Qualities as thoſe of *Tunbridge*; and were ſo reputed to have 50 Years ago; but an eminent Phyſician at that time, who was a great Patron of them, dying, they were neglected, till within theſe two Years, that they were revived by the great Genius I have mentioned; who, in his own Caſe, has found them to have the ſame Effects, as thoſe of *Tunbridge* uſed to have.

The Manor of *Gobions* lies a little North of *Hertford*, and will be for ever famous on occaſion of its being the Family-ſeat of the great Sir *Thomas More*, Lord High Chancellor of *England* in the Reign of *Henry* VIII. who took off his Head, for refuſing to acknowlege his Supremacy. It is now the Property of Sir *Jeremy Sambroke*, Bart. who for the Beauty of its Gardens, as well as the Houſe, has made the Place one of the moſt remarkable Curioſities in *England*.

A little farther North, at *Wotton*, is the Manſion-houſe of the *Botelers*, finely ſituated on a riſing Ground, and watered with ſmall Streams, which fall into the *Beane*, on the South of it. It ſtands in a Park beautifully conſiſting of Hills and Flats, and eſteemed for as good Timber as the Iſland produces. About 40 Years ſince, one Tree was ſold for 43 *l.* eighteen Horſes were had to draw one Part of it,

(a) Author of *The Laſt Day*; *The Univerſal Paſſion*; *Night-Thoughts*, &c. &c.

when ſlit, and out of it the Cut-water to the *Royal Sovereign* was made. Another, called the *Walking-ſtick*, might ſome Years ago have been ſold for fifty Guineas; but was decaying when I was there, by the burrowing of Rabbets under it. There is a good Free-ſchool in this Village, for poor Children; with ſome of whom 5 *l.* is to be given Apprentice.

Stevenage is 28 computed Miles from *London*, and lies North-weſt of *Hertford*. It is a ſmall Market-town: the Church ſtands upon an Hill, and conſiſts of a Nave and two Iſles, and the Chancel hath a Chapel on each Side. In the Steeple is a Ring of ſix Bells. Here is a good Free-ſchool, as well for Petit as Grammar Scholars.

Walkern is near it, North-eaſt, on the River *Beane*. I mention it on account of the poor *Jane Wenman*, who within theſe 40 or 50 Years was tried for a Witch, the laſt, we hope, that ever will undergo ſuch a Trial in *England*; the old obſolete Law againſt Witches being lately repealed. Mr. Juſtice *Powell* got a Reprieve for the poor Creature, after the Jury had found her guilty, contrary to his Directions. She lived ſeveral Years afterwards on an Allowance from the Pariſh. The poor Wretch had been frighted into a Confeſſion, that ſhe was a Witch; and thereupon was committed by Sir *Harry Chauncey*, of *Yardlybury*, who would fain have had her retract, and pacify her Accuſers. This Gentleman was one of the deprived Judges of *James* II. but it is ſaid he never ſat as Judge but one Day. He wrote *The Antiquities of* HERTFORDSHIRE.

It is reported likewiſe, that another Woman being tried before Judge *Powell*, who, among other things that conſtituted her a Witch, had laid to her Charge, That ſhe could fly; *Ay!* ſaid the Judge; *And is this true? Do you ſay you can fly? Yes, I can*, ſaid ſhe. —*So you may, if you will, then*, replied the Judge; *I*

have

have no Law againſt it. And at the Trial of *Jane Wenman*, the Court being full of fine Ladies, the old Judge very gallantly told the Jury, "They muſt "not look out for Witches among the Old Women, "but among the Young."

I paſſed by *Benington-place*, the Seat of the antient Family of the *Cæſars*. There was formerly a Caſtle there; the Hill on which it ſtood ſtill remains deep ditched.

At *Siffivernes*, in *Codicote* Pariſh, in the Year 1627. was a moſt prodigious Walnut-tree, covering 76 Poles of Ground. The Weight of the Boughs at laſt cleft the Trunk to the Ground. Mr. *Penn*, then Lord of the Manor, had 19 Loads of Planks out of it; a Gun-ſtock-maker at *London* had as much as coſt 10 *l.* Carriage: there were 30 Loads more of Roots and Branches. This was atteſted by *Edward Wingate*, before a neighbouring Juſtice of Peace, to whom Mr. *Penn* declared, he had been offered 50 *l.* for the Tree. And *Jaſper Docura*, of the Pariſh, atteſted, That, when he was 15 Years old, the Compaſs of both his Arms would not reach it at eight times.

Hitchin is a Market-town, lying in a Bottom, out of any great Road, diſtant from *London* 30 computed Miles, and within three Miles of *Bedfordſhire*. 'Tis governed by a Bailiff and four Conſtables, and was formerly famous for the Staple Commodities of this Kingdom. The Church is large, dedicated to St. *Mary*. It conſiſts of the Nave and two Iſles, with two Chapels or Chancels. The Steeple has a Ring of ſix Bells, but is low, and diſproportionate to the Chancel. In the North-iſle Window are Paintings of *Faith*, *Hope*, and *Charity*, and of the *Four Cardinal Virtues*; and, in the next North Window, the *Beatitudes*. The Front hath the Twelve Apoſtles round it; but they have been Sufferers from the

booted Saints of *Forty-one*. There are many Monuments in it. A good Free-ſchool, and other charitable Benefactions, have been added to the Town.

I could not miſs taking notice of *Hexton*, on the North-weſt Edge of the County, next *Bedfordſhire*, where was a Battle between the *Danes* and *Saxons*, ſome Remains of which are viſible between this Place and *Luton*, as large Barrows, *&c.* Half a Mile to the South of this Town is a fortified Piece of Ground, called *Ravenſborough-Caſtle*. The Camp is a ſort of Oblong, containing about 16 Acres, the Fortification intire. Nature has ſo well ſtrengthened it, that 1000 Men may defend it againſt a very great Army: it is encompaſſed with a Valley, and a very ſteep Hill, inacceſſible by an Army any-where but at the Point of Entrance, which is by a gradual Aſcent of a Quarter of a Mile.

The *Beryſtade*, an Houſe then poſſeſſed by *John Croſs*, Eſq; tho' low, and in the Dirt, is now an agreeable Summer-houſe; which it owes chiefly to *St. Faith*'s Well, a fine Spring at *Ravensburg*. A moory Piece of Ground, where the Spring riſes, is cut into Canals, which are ſtocked with Trouts, many of them 22 Inches long. Theſe having been uſed to take their Food from the Maſter's Hand, out of a Bowl with a long Handle to it, come rolling up to the Surface. The Bottom is white, either from Chalk or Sand; and ſo tranſparent, that every Fiſh may be ſeen that comes out of its Hole. To preſerve them from Groping, the Banks are wharfed, and in ſome Places ſupported with Timber; ſo that the Fiſh can ſhelter themſelves underneath; and a Man muſt have his Head and Shoulders in Water, who ſtoops down to them. From hence the Water feeds a large Canal in the Garden, ſtored with Carp and Tench; and there might be made Baſons or Canals to any Dimenſions.

Near

Near *Hexton* is a ſquare *Roman* Camp upon a Promontory juſt big enough for the Purpoſe, and under it is a fine Spring.

Liliho is a fine Plot of Ground upon an Hill, where an Horſe-race is kept. It lies a little South of *Hexton*, juſt by the *Ikening*.

Near *Pirton* Church has been a Caſtle of the *Saxons* or *Normans*, with a Keep.

I proceeded next to *Baldock*, ſituated on the *Ikening-ſtreet*, as it leads from *Dunſtable* to *Royſton*. It is a large Market-town, 29 computed Miles from *London*. It is of chief Note for its many Maltſters. The Church ſtands in the Middle of the Town; it is an handſome high-built Edifice, with a Ring of ſix good Bells. It has three Chancels, but the two outward are rather Chapels. The *Ikening-ſtreet*, about *Baldock*, now appears but like a Field-way. Between *Baldock* and *Icleford* it goes thro' an Intrenchment, conſiſting of the Remains of a *Britiſh* Town, now called *Wilbury-hill*. *Icleford* retains the Name of the Street, which at this Place paſſes a Rivulet with a ſtrong Ford, wanting Reparation.

This Street, quite to the *Thames* in *Oxfordſhire*, goes at the Bottom of a continued Ridge of Hills, called the *Chiltern*, being Chalk, and the natural and civil Boundary between the Counties of *Hertford* and *Bedford*, very ſteep Northward.

As the *Ikening-ſtreet* and the *Foſs* traverſed the Kingdom from South-weſt to North-eaſt, parallel to each other, and *Watling-ſtreet* croſſed theſe quite the contrary Way with an equal Obliquity, the *Herman-ſtreet* paſſed directly North and South. This Word is *Saxon*, and ſignifies a Soldier or Warrior, which Name it obtained from being a Military Way.

It begins at *Newhaven*, at the Mouth of the River *Ouſe* in *Suſſex*, and paſſes on the Weſt Side of that River, thro' *Radmil*, then through *Lewis* by *Iſfield*;

after which it ſeems to paſs over the River at *Sharnbridge*, and ſo proceeds to *Eaſt-Grinſtead*; but is loſt in paſſing thro' the great Woods. Then thro' *Surry* it goes by *Stane-ſtreet*, *Croydon*, *Stretham*; and by its pointing we may conclude was originally deſigned to paſs the *Thames* at the Ferry called *Stangate* by *Lambeth*, where it coincides with the *Watling-ſtreet*. There the Road went, before *London* became conſiderable: but, ſince that Period, the Traces of the Roads near that Capital have grown very obſcure. The original Road perhaps paſſes thro' unfrequented Ways near *Enfield* and *Herman-ſtreet*, which ſeems from thence to have borrowed its Name.

On the Eaſtern Side of *Enfield-Chace* by *Buſh-hill*, is a circular *Britiſh* Camp upon an Eminence, declining South-weſt. But the antient Road appears upon a Common on this Side *Hertford* by *Ball's-park*, and paſſes the River below *Hertford*; then goes thro' *Ware-park*, and falls into the preſent Road on this Side *Buntingford*, and ſo to *Royſton*, where it croſſes the *Ikening-ſtreet*, coming from *Tring* thro' *Dunſtable*, going into *Suffolk*. Theſe are the principal Places upon the two Roads, which we thought fit to mention together.

At *Baldock* I croſſed the North Road, and got into the third Diviſion I propoſed, next *Cambridgeſhire* and *Eſſex*; and when I have paſſed thro' it, I will return back again South, and take a View of ſuch Towns lying on the Eaſt Side of the middle Diviſion as I have not been at already.

In the Year 1724. between *Caldecot* and *Henxworth*, ſeveral *Roman* Antiquities were dug up. Workmen, digging Gravel for the Repair of the great Northern Road, ſtruck upon ſome earthen Veſſels or large Urns, full of Aſhes, and burnt Bones, but rotten; near them an human Skeleton, with the Head towards the South-eaſt, the Feet North-weſt.

Several

Several Bodies were found in the ſame Poſition, not above a Foot under the Surface of the Earth, and with Urns, great or ſmall, near them, and Patera's of fine red Earth, ſome with the Impreſſion of the Maker at the Bottom; alſo Glaſs Lacrymatories, Ampulla's, a Braſs Tribulus, ſix ſmall Glaſſes, two large Beads of a green Colour, and other Fragments:

I went thro' the Village of *Aſhwell*, which ſtands not far from *Caldecot*, on the Source of the *Rhee*, by the Borders of *Cambridgeſhire*, which breaks out of a Rock here from many Springs, with ſuch Force as to form a Stream remarkably clear, but ſo cold, that it gripes Horſes not uſed to drink it. The Water here bubbles out at as many Places, and as abundantly, and in juſt ſuch a Bottom under an Hill, as doth the *Iſis* or *Thames* in *Glouceſterſhire*. In *Domeſday Book*, this Village is called a Borough, having 14 Burgeſſes, and a Market; antiently alſo it had four Fairs. Mr. *Camden* thinks the Village *Roman*; and at half a Mile Diſtance, South of this Source of the *Rhee*, is a Spot of Ground taken in by a Vallum, and generally thought to be one of the *Caſtra Exploratorum* of the *Romans*; it is called *Arbury Banks*, and conſiſts of about 12 Acres; and *Roman* Coins have been found here; but ſtill it wants ſeveral Requiſites, for a *Roman* Camp, which I have not Room to particularize. *Aſhwell-field* affords a Stone Quarry, out of which the Stones of moſt of the Churches of this Side, and the neighbouring Part of *Bedfordſhire*, have been dug. The Church has an handſome Chancel, three large Iſles, a lofty Tower at the Weſt End, with a Ring of ſix Bells, and a Chapel on the North Side the Chancel.

I now come to *Royſton*, ſituated upon the utmoſt Northern Border of *Hertfordſhire*, inſomuch that Part of it is in *Cambridgeſhire*, 33 computed Miles from *London*. The Fields about this Town have

upon almoſt every Eminence a Barrow; and they lie very thick by the *Ikening-ſtreet*, Eaſt of this Town. Here was a Monaſtery founded in Honour of St. *Thomas à Becket*, as alſo an Hoſpital, both ſwallowed up in the Diſſolution of *Henry* VIII. but the Priory-church was purchaſed by the Inhabitants, and made a Pariſh-church of. It conſiſts of a Nave, with an Iſle on each Side, and a ſquare Tower with a Ring of five Bells in it.

The Town became populous, on erecting the preſent Poſt-road through it, which before ran along the *Herman-ſtreet*, through *Barkway* to *Biggleſwade*. It is now a good Town, and well inhabited, and has a very great Corn-market on *Wedneſdays*, and is full of good Inns. In the Year 1716. a School-houſe was erected here by Contribution of the Town and Country. But, on *Aug.* the 22d, 1747. a dreadful Fire happened, which conſumed 36 Houſes, and did other very conſiderable Damage; in which one Perſon loſt 500 Quarters of Malt, and other Grain and Goods to the Amount of 2000 *l.*

Two Miles both Ways of *Royſton* is chalky Soil; about *Puckeridge* it is gravelly: in other Places adjoining are Camps, and *Roman* Antiquities. At *Hadſtock* is the Skin of a *Daniſh* King nailed upon the Church-doors, as reported.

Royſton was a *Roman* Town before *Roiſia* built her religious Houſe here; for *Roman* Coins have been dug up near the Spot. There ſeems to be the Stamp of *Roiſia*'s Croſs ſtill remaining at the Corner of the Inn, juſt where the two Roads meet. The Earl of *Oxford*, digging Canals at *Wimple*, when he had that Seat, found many Bodies, and ruſty Pieces of Iron, the Remains of ſome Battle.

And now I bend my Courſe Southward, towards *London*.

The

The Church of *Therfield*, which lies among the Hills, a little South of *Royſton*, is obliged to *Francis* Lord Biſhop of *Ely*, once Rector of it, who paved the Chancel with Free-ſtone, the Area of the Altar with Marble; wainſcoted the Walls, made it into the Form of a Choir, and cieled it with Fret-work. 'Tis a Rectory of great Value, and is rated in the Firſt-fruits Office at 50 *l.* a Year. Till lately was at *Therfield* Furniture of all Sorts for the Uſe of poor Peoples Weddings, ſuch as was at *Braughing*; but they are now loſt, or converted to other Uſes, even literally to Plough-ſhares and Peas-hooks.

Barkway is a Market-town. The Church ſtands in the Midſt of the Town, with an Iſle on each Side, and a Tower with five Bells, and a Turret-clock. The Creation of the World is painted on one of the Windows. In one Pane at Top is a bodily Repreſentation of the Deity, as a Man in a looſe Robe, down to his Feet, with the Globe before him, and the Motto under, *De opere primæ diei.* The next Pane has the ſame, with Hands expanded, ſtanding on the Firmament, in the Midſt of the Water; under which, *De opere ſecundæ diei.* The third has the ſame Figure, among green Trees and Herbs; the Legend loſt, and three other Panes, in Order, under theſe. The Painting of the fourth is loſt. The fifth has the ſame Figure, with Birds flying about it. A Piece of the ſixth remains, where Fowls and Beaſts are brought to *Adam* to be named. Another Window, in the North Iſle, has St. *George* ſlaying a Dragon, a Biſhop, *&c.*

The *Roman* Road, called *Herman-ſtreet*, paſſes thro' the Pariſh of *Amſty*; and all the Way upon it we find Remains of Camps and Stations, exactly according to the Itinerary. The Caſtle, formerly here, was ſaid to be built by *Euſtace* Earl of *Bologne*, at the Conqueror's Command; and it is not improbable,

that there were Fortifications before. It conſiſted of a Keep, or round artificial Hill, yet remaining, with a large and deep Foſſe about it; the Mount, probably, made from the Ditch. The Barons, in King *John*'s Time, made another Retrenchment South of it, which would contain a Gariſon as numerous as the Caſtle would hold. *Henry* III. obliged *Nicolas de Aveſtic* to demoliſh the additional Fortification, and keep up only the old one.

The Church was built in the Reign of *Henry* III. as is ſaid, out of the Stones of the demoliſhed Fortifications made additional to the Caſtle. It is certainly very old, and built with a low Tower in the Middle, and two Iſles. The Chancel, perhaps, was rebuilt with the Materials of the Keep, being of later Date. It is large and lofty, and hath Stalls, as if for a Choir.

Buntingford is the next Town, and lies in the *Cambridge* Road, noted for a great Thoroughfare, 28 computed Miles from *London*, and owes its Being as a Town to the preſent Poſt-road thro' it to the North. The firſt Mention of it is in the Reign of *Edward* III. who gave a Market and a Fair to it. It is ſituated in *Layſton* Pariſh; but has a Chapel of Brick, built by Contribution for the Inhabitants here. Dr. *Seth Ward*, Biſhop of *Salisbury*, who died *Jan.* 6. 1688. built a neat Brick-houſe near the Chapel, for four poor Men, and four poor Women, who had lived handſomely, and came to Decay thro' Misfortunes; each of which has two Rooms below, and two above. *Buntingford* Free-ſchool owes much alſo to the ſame worthy Prelate, who had his Education in it. He built, 1683. an Hoſpital at *Salisbury*, for ten poor Widows of Clergymen; was a Benefactor to *Layſton*; gave a good Sum of Money to make *Salisbury* River navigable; 600*l.* to be laid out in Land, for putting out three poor Children Apprentices,

tices, two out of *Alſeden*, and one out of *Layſton*, alternately. In ſhort, the good Biſhop ſeems to have thought, that the Revenues he reaped from the Church, ought to have ſome other more public Deſignation, than to lift out of Obſcurity a private Family.

Braughing lies a little on the Eaſt of the Road, was antiently, next to *Verulam*, the moſt conſiderable Place in the County, and is thought to have been the *Roman Cæſaromagum*, ſituated 28 Miles from *London*, as by *Antoninus*'s *Itinerary*. It ſtill has ſome Ruins of its antient Eminence, giving Name to the Deanry and the Hundred. On the Weſt-ſide the *Herman-ſtreet*, now the Road to *Cambridge*, we find the Ruins of a *Roman* Camp. The Church is an handſome Building, and hath a Ring of five good Bells.

Near the Church-yard is an old Houſe, at preſent inhabited by poor Families, which was given with all Sorts of Furniture for Weddings. They brought hither their Proviſions, and had a large Kitchen, with a Caldron, large Spits and Dripping-pan; a large Room for Merriment; a Lodging-room, with a Bride-bed, and good Linen; ſome of which Furniture was in being a few Years ago.

This Proviſion was alſo at *Therfield*, and the Kitchen Utenſils; but lately loſt.

We proceeded through *Puckridge*, a little Hamlet-town, but a great Thoroughfare, ſtanding on the *Herman-ſtreet*, where are ſeveral good Inns for Travelers; and came to *Standon*, a ſmall Market-town. The Church hath three Iſles; the Floor of the Chancel is ſeven Steps above that of the Church, and the Altar three Steps above the Chancel-floor.

Here we turn'd ſhort to the Eaſt, to viſit *Biſhop-Stortford*, lying on the Borders of *Eſſex*, 27 Miles from *London*. The Conqueror gave this Town and

Caſtle

Caſtle to the Biſhop of *London*, whence its *Prænomen*; and King *John* ſeized and demoliſhed it, for the Offence of the then Biſhop, who was one of thoſe who publiſhed the Pope's Interdict againſt the Nation. The Town, in the ſame Reign, was incorporated, and returned Members to ſeven ſucceſſive Parliaments. The Biſhop was reſtored by the ſame Prince, and Satisfaction made him for demoliſhing the Caſtle. The Hill or Keep of the Caſtle is artificial, made of Earth carried thither, with a Breaſtwork at Top, of Stones and Morter. A Bank of Earth leads from it through the moory Ground, on which it was ſituated, to the North-eaſt. There is a large Wall from the Top of the Hill yet remaining. The Biſhop's Priſon was in being in Biſhop *Bonner*'s Time; tho' all the old Buildings are ſince demoliſhed. But the Caſtle-guard is ſtill paid by ſeveral Places to the Biſhop, beſides other Quit-rents.

The Town is large, and well-built; it is a Thoroughfare from *London* to *Combridge*, *Newmarket*, and *St. Edmundsbury*, and full of convenient Inns. It is built in the Form of a Croſs, having four Streets turn'd to the Cardinal Points; and the River *Stort* runs thro' it.

The Church dedicated to St. *Michael* is lofty, and ſtands on high Ground; it hath a fine Ring of eight Bells. There were antiently three Guilds and a Chantry founded here. In the Church are nine Stalls on a Side for a Choir. On the North-ſide the Church is a Gallery for the young Gentlemen of the School, built by Contribution; upon it Sir *John Hobart*'s Arms, who was educated there, and a great Benefactor to this Work.

At the Weſt-end is another Gallery, built a few Years ago, upon which is an Organ; and it is obſervable, that there was an Organ in this Church ſo long

long ago as in the Reign of *Henry* VII. A new Font ſtands before it, with a Pavement of black and white Marble, incloſed with Iron Rails.

There are a great Number of Monuments in the Church, particularly one in the North Iſle, for ſeven Children of *Edward Mapheſden*, who died of the Small-pox, with a *Latin* Inſcription, deploring that heavy Diſpenſation.

Several Benefactions are beſtowed on the Poor of this Town, particularly two Alms-houſes in *Potters-ſtreet*. But the greateſt Ornament of the Town is the School, built 35 Years ago, by Contribution of the Gentlemen of *Hertfordſhire* and *Eſſex*, at the Requeſt of Dr. *Thomas Tooke*, late Maſter, who alſo procured ſeveral Sums for completing it, from the young Gentlemen educated here. When this Gentleman engaged in it, it was at the loweſt Ebb of Reputation; but he raiſed it to a great Degree of Fame, and conſiderably increaſed the Trade of the Town, by the beneficial Concourſe that it brought thither. He revived the annual School-feaſt, and charged his own Eſtate with a yearly Preſent to the Preacher on that Occaſion. He died *May* 4. 1721. after upwards of 30 Years ſucceſsful and diligent Labours here. By his Intereſt and Care, the Gallery in the Church, for the Uſe of the School, was erected. He gave a Chalice of 20*l.* Value to the Church, and was a great Benefactor to the School-library; which is a very good one, and was firſt ſet on foot by the Reverend *Thomas Leigh*, B. D. who was Vicar of the Church *Anno* 1680.

The School ſtands in the High ſtreet, with the Weſt-front to the Church-yard, conſiſting of three Rooms, which, with the Stair-caſe, make a ſquare Building. The Grammar-ſchool takes up half of it, all the Front to the Street; the other two are the Library, and Writing-ſchool. Theſe ſtand upon Arches,

Arches, under which are a Market and Shops, which are the Property of the Pariſh; and here the School was built, at the Deſire of the Inhabitants, who got by it a Covering for their Market, and at the ſame time an Ornament to their Town.

Every Gentleman at leaving the School preſents a Book to the Library.

Hadham Parva ſtands a little North of *Biſhop-Stortford*, and is of chief Note for being the Burying-place of the *Capels*, Earls of *Eſſex*.

The Manor of *Rye*, in the Pariſh of *Stanſted-Abbots*, is famous for the Plot, called thence *The Rye-houſe Plot*, ſaid to be formed for aſſaſſinating King *Charles* II. in his Return from *Newmarket*; for which ſeveral Perſons ſuffered, and among the reſt the Tenant of the Place, *Rumball*, a Man of a daring and intrepid Spirit.

Honeſdon, ſeparated from *Eſſex* by the *Stort*, deſerves to be mentioned for three Reaſons; firſt, for its noble Situation upon a gravelly riſing Ground, overlooking the Meadows; 2dly, for being the Reſidence of the Children of King *Henry* VIII. in whoſe Hands it was then, on account of its good Air, and Vicinity to *London*; and 3dly, for the Seat of *Robert Cheſter*, Eſq; built within theſe few Years, incloſed with a Park. It ſtands upon a beautiful Hill, overlooking the Meadows, the River *Stort*, and Part of *Eſſex*, from the back Front; from the other, it hath a Proſpect over great Part of *Hertfordſhire*, and is ſeen from *Cheſhunt* Common, on one hand, as *St. Paul*'s is from the other. At the Entrance of the Avenue it hath a large Baſin, thro' which runs a ſmall Stream; and there is a graceful Plantation of Trees, with Variety of Slopes, adorned with Statues. The ſame Stream afterwards feeds a Canal.

We purſued our Way directly South, and came to *Sawbridgeworth*, or *Sabſworth*. Among ſeveral antient

tient Monuments in the Church, is an handſome one erected to the Memory of General *Lumley*, Brother to the then Earl of *Scarborough*, with an Inſcription, greatly to his Honour, as follows:

'Here lieth the Honourable HENRY LUMLEY, 'Eſq; only Brother to *Thomas* Earl of *Scarborough*; 'who was in every Battle, and at every Siege, as 'Colonel, Lieutenant-General, or General of the 'Horſe, with King *William*, or the Duke of *Marl-* 'borough, in twenty Campaigns, in *Ireland*, *Flan-* 'ders, and *Germany*; where he was honoured, 'eſteemed, and beloved, by our own Army, by our 'Allies, and even by the Enemies, for his ſingular 'Politeneſs and Humanity, as well as for all his 'military Virtues and Capacity. He ſat long in 'Parliament, always zealous for the Honour of the 'Crown, and for the Good of his Country; and 'knew no Party, but that of Truth, Juſtice, and 'Honour. He died Governor of the Iſle of *Jerſey*, 'the 18th of *October* 1722. in the 63d Year of his 'Age.'

The Manor-houſe of *Piſhobury*, in *Sabſworth* Pariſh, deſerves to be mentioned on account of its remarkable Strength (though built in Queen *Elizabeth*'s Time), and lofty Rooms. It is ſituated on a clean Soil, has handſome Avenues to it, with the River *Stort* behind, which communicates with the Canals in the Gardens. It is in the Poſſeſſion of the Family of *Gardener*.

We then croſſed the Country directly Weſt to *Ware*, ſituated 20 Miles from *London*, on the River *Lee*, in its Courſe from *Milford*. The Town ſtands low, upon a Level with the River. It is a Place of great Trade for all Sorts of Grain, but chiefly Malt, which

which is conveyed in great Quantities to *London*, by the River *Lee*, which is navigable from hence; and the Barges bring Coals, *&c.*

It conſiſts of one principal Street a Mile long, and other back Streets and Lanes. At an Inn in this Town is the famous great Bed, which is twelve Feet ſquare.

Ware, being 20 Miles from *London*, is the ſecond Poſt-town from thence on the Northern Road. The next is *Royſton*, 13 Miles further. Several Almshouſes, and a Free-ſchool, and other Charities, belong to this Town.

Thomas Byde, Eſq; Lord of the Manor, has an Houſe pleaſantly ſituated in the Park here, to which is an Aſcent of every Side; alſo a Vineyard newly planted. One late Improvement, beſides many others, is a Cut from the *Rib*, which by that means turns that Stream thro' the Park on the South-ſide, which is a fine Nurſery and Protection for Trouts.

In the North Part of the Town was ſituated the Priory, now in the Poſſeſſion of the Family of *Hadſley*.

At *Blake's-ware*, the moſt Eaſtern Part of the Pariſh, is a Seat of *William Plummer*, Eſq; with a Stream, called the *Aſh*, on the Eaſt Front, which feeds a Canal and a Garden by the River-ſide. The chief Gardens are ſeen from the Weſtern Front, which, being upon a Declivity, afford an handſome Proſpect that Way.

A little South of *Ware* lies *Amwell*, a Village famous for giving Riſe to the *New River*; which, proceeding in a direct Courſe by the Church, receives a Spring which flows with great Abundance. It is 20 Miles from *London*; but the Courſe of the River is computed at 36. It was begun by Sir *Hugh Middleton*; but he being ruined by the Project, the City

of

of *London* undertook it, and by Aid of an Act of Parliament brought it to Perfection. The yearly Profit of the River has, ſome Years ago, been computed at 30,000*l.* and the Expence in ſupporting and keeping it up is ſaid to amount to half the Profit. 'Twas divided originally into 72 Shares, one Moiety whereof belonged to private Perſons, and the other to the Crown: for King *James* I. for the ſake of his Palace at *Theobalds*, was a great Promoter of it. The Crown's Moiety is ſince come into private Hands; who however have no Part in the Management; for the Corporation conſiſts of 29 of the Proprietors of the firſt 36 Shares.

This River, in fact, draws moſt of its Water from the *Lee*; which being the Property of the City of *London*, that Corporation oppoſed a Bill brought into Parliament, for giving farther Powers to the *New River* Company to benefit itſelf by the *Lee* River: but the Oppoſition availed not, and in the Seſſion 1738-9. the Bill paſſed into a Law.

The Governors of the *New River* Company agreed with the Proprietors of the Lands on the River *Lee*, for a Cut of two cubic Feet of Water from the ſaid River, at a certain Rate; and, after the Agreement, they told them they would double the Price for a four-foot Cut; which the Proprietors agreed to, not conſidering the great Diſproportion of the two Cuts. And this Cut of the River *Lee* ſupplies the largeſt Share of the *New River* Water.

We kept along the great Road, thro' *Hoddeſdon* (which is a conſiderable Market-town, and noted alſo as a Thoroughfare), till we came to *Broxbourn*, which lies near it on the *New River*; a ſmall but pleaſant Village, ſituated on a riſing Ground, having pleaſant Meadows down to the River *Lee*. On the Left-hand of the Village is *Broxbournbury*, the Seat of

he

the Lord *Monſon*. The Houſe is large, and in the old *Gothic* Style, and ſituated in the Middle of the Park (which has been planted and beautified of late). There are alſo new Offices erected at a little Diſtance from the Houſe, in a Quadrangle, on the ſame Plan with the King's *Mews* at *Charing-croſs*. They are placed behind a large Plantation of Trees, ſo that they do not appear until you are near upon them; yet are at a convenient Diſtance from the Manſion-houſe, which I was informed his Lordſhip alſo propoſes to rebuild.

The Manor of *Theobalds* is in this Neighbourhood, where formerly was built a magnificent Seat by Lord Treaſurer *Burleigh*, who gave it his younger Son, Sir *Robert Cecil*; and he exchanged it for that of *Hatfield*, at the Deſire of *James* I. who made it his Sporting ſeat; and here ended his Life. From this Place *Charles* I. ſet out to erect his Standard at *Nottingham*. King *Charles* II. made a Grant of it to *Monck* Duke of *Albemarle*, and to his Male Iſſue; which failing in his Son *Chriſtopher*, King *William* gave it to *Bentinck* Earl of *Portland*, in whoſe Grandſon, the preſent Duke, it ſtill continues. In the late Civil Wars, the Palace was plundered and defaced; and is become a poor Village, from a Royal Reſidence. The great Park, which was incloſed within a Wall of 10 Miles Compaſs, by King *James*, is now converted into Farms. The Place is however populous, and the *New River* runs juſt by, and ſometimes thro' the Gardens of the Inhabitants. In this Neighbourhood *Richard Cromwell*, the abdicated Protector, paſſed the laſt Part of his Life, in a very private Manner.

Waltham-croſs is the next, and, as you enter *Middleſex* by the North Road, the laſt Place in *Hertfordſhire*, ſtanding juſt on the Edge of *Middleſex*. It is noted

noted for, and takes its Name from, the Croſs, built by King *Edward* I. in Honour of his beloved Queen *Eleanor*, whoſe Corpſe, in its Way from *Lincolnſhire* to *Weſtminſter*, reſted here; as a Croſs was built at every Stage where it reſted, and *Charing-croſs* was the laſt. That Princeſs's Effigies placed round the Pillar, and the Arms of her Royal Conſort, as well as her own, *viz. England*, *Caſtile*, *Leon*, and *Poictou*, are ſtill remaining, tho' much defaced.

And thus much for the County of *Hertford*, with which I conclude myſelf,

SIR,

Yours, &c.

LET-

LETTER IV.

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION *of Part of* BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, *of the County of* OXFORD, *and Part of* WILTS.

SIR,

I NOW proceed to give you an Account of my next Journey thro' Part of *Bucks*, into *Oxfordſhire*, and ſhall touch upon ſome Parts of *Wiltſhire*, of which I have not yet taken notice.

On the Right-hand, as we ride from *London* to *Uxbridge*, or to *Colebrook*, we ſee *Harrow*; the Church of which ſtanding on the Summit of an Hill, and having a very high Spire, they tell us, King *Charles* II. ridiculing the warm Diſputes among ſome critical Scripturaliſts of thoſe Times, concerning the *Viſible* Church of *Chriſt* upon Earth, uſed to ſay, This was it.

From *Uxbridge* we proceeded on the Road towards *Oxford*, and came to *Beaconsfield*, a ſmall Town on the Road to *Oxford*, full of good Inns, and ſituated on a dry Hill, famous for the Reſidence of Mr. *Edmund Waller*, eminent for his poetical Talent.

Then we went on to *Wickham*, commonly called

High or *Chipping Wycoomb*, from *Coomb*, a *Britiſh* Word for Valley. This is a large Town, conſiſting of one great principal Street, branching out into divers ſmall ones. It is full of good Houſes and Inns, being a great Thoroughfare from *London* to *Oxford*. This Town ſends two Members to Parliament.

Not far from *Wickham* lies *Amerſham*, or *Agmondeſham*, a ſmall Market-town, very antient, ſituated in the *Chiltern*, a Part of the County abounding with chalky Hills, covered with Woods and Groves of Beeches; and which ſends Members to Parliament. A little beyond it you go thro' *Cheſham*, a ſmall Market-town; and likewiſe *Wendover*, a mean, dirty corporate Town; which ſends two Members to Parliament: as likewiſe does *Aylesbury*; which is the largeſt and beſt Town in the County.——It ſtands on an Hill; but the Country round it is low and dirty. It conſiſts of ſeveral large Streets, and has an handſomely built Market-houſe, which ſtands in a kind of Quadrangle. It has alſo a Town-houſe, where the Aſſizes and Seſſions, and other public Meetings of the County, are held. Proviſions are here cheap and plentiful, which is owing to the rich Vale adjoining. It was a ſtrong Town in the Beginning of the *Saxons* Time, and a Manor Royal in that of the *Conqueror*'s, who parcell'd it out under this odd Tenure, That the Tenants ſhould find *Litter or Straw for the King's Bedchambers* three times a Year, if he came that Way ſo often, and provide him three Eels in Winter, and three Green-geeſe in Summer; which would be but a mean Entertainment at Bed and Board for a King in theſe Days.

Many of the Poor here are employ'd in making Lace for Edgings; much inferior to thoſe in *Flanders*: but it is ſome Pleaſure to us to obſerve, that the *Engliſh* are not the only Nation in the World, which admires foreign Manufactures above its own; ſince the

the *French*, who give Faſhions to moſt Nations, buy and ſell the fineſt Laces at *Paris* under the Name of *Dentelles d'Angleterre*, or *Engliſh* Laces. The *Engliſh* Ladies are even with them in many Inſtances; and particularly in refuſing to buy very rich Silks, if they are not called *French*; tho' at the ſame time, it is well known, that the Looms of *Spital-fields* outdo any of thoſe in *France*.

All round this Town is a large Track of the richeſt Land in *England*, extended for many Miles almoſt from *Tame*, on the Edge of *Oxfordſhire*, to *Leighton* in *Bedfordſhire*, and is called from this very Town, *The Vale of Aylesbury*. It is famous for fattening Cattle and Sheep, and 'tis frequent that they ſell a Ram here for Breeding for Ten Pounds. Here it was, that, converſing with ſome Gentlemen who underſtood Country-Affairs (for all Gentlemen hereabouts are Graſiers, tho' all the Graſiers are not Gentlemen), they ſhewed me one remarkable incloſed Field of Paſture-ground, which was lett for 1400*l.* *per Annum* to a Graſier; and I knew the Tenant very well, whoſe Name was *Houghton*, who confirmed the Truth of it.

The late Duke of *Wharton* had a very fine Seat at *Winchenden*, and another much finer nearer *Windſor*, called *Ubourn*. But the Cataſtrophe that has befallen this once flouriſhing and truly noble Family is too melancholy, and too well known, to be animadverted upon here.

Near this Place lies *Chilton*, famous for giving Birth to that ſteady Patriot the Lord Chief-Juſtice *Crook*, who ſtrenuouſly oppoſed the arbitrary Meaſures of levying Ship-money without the Authority of Parliament.

South-weſt of *Aylesbury*, lies the Market-town of *Tame*, ſituated on the Side of a Meadow, and almoſt incompaſſed with Rivulets. It conſiſts of one long, broad

broad Street. The Church is large and fine, in Form of a Croſs; near which are the Ruins of a Priory. A Pot of *Roman* Coin was found here ſeveral Years ſince.

The *Thame* joins the other Branch, named alſo the *Thames*, at *Dorcheſter* in *Oxfordſhire*. In this Vale of *Aylesbury* flouriſhed the great and antient Family of *Hampden*, for many Ages, in the Enjoyment of very large Eſtates, which, like that of *Wharton*, are now diſſipated.

At the Confluence of the *Thame* and *Iſis* ſtands *Dorcheſter*, a Town of Note among the antient *Romans*, and in the Year 634. was made a Biſhop's See, till *Remigius*, in 1094. removed it to *Lincoln*. It has a very large Church, and a fine large Stone Bridge, of great Length and Antiquity.

Eaſt of *Aylesbury* lies *Ivingo*, a pleaſant Market-town ſituated among Woods, in a Nook, or kind of Peninſula, which runs in between *Bedfordſhire* and *Hertfordſhire*.

We paſſed forward North-weſt through *Winſlow*, a ſmall Market-town, to *Buckingham*, the County-town, ſituated in a low, fruitful Ground, ſurrounded by the *Ouze* on all Sides but the North. It is governed by a Bailiff and Capital Burgeſſes. The Caſtle was ſeated in the Middle of the Town, upon a great Mount; but hardly any thing even of its Ruins now remains. It divided the Town, in a manner, into two Parts; the biggeſt to the North, where ſtands the Town-hall; the leſſer to the Weſt, in which is a Church, formerly noted for the Shrine of St. *Rumbald*. The Buildings of the Town are old. It has three Stone Bridges over the River; and beſides the well-built Church, there is a Chapel erected by Archbiſhop *Becket*, which is now uſed for a Free-ſchool. Several Paper-mills are erected on the *Ouze*. The County-gaol and Court are kept here, and ſometimes

the Aſſizes are held in it. The Town ſends two Members to Parliament.

It would have been inexcuſable, when we were here, if we had not made a Viſit to *Stow*, hard by; a Village made deſervedly famous by the noble Gardens of the Right Honourable the Lord Viſcount *Cobham*. With which I was ſo charmed, that I cannot excuſe myſelf from giving a very particular Deſcription of them; and I have no doubt, that you will be as much pleaſed with it, however imperfectly I may give it; ſince your infirm State of Health permits you not to travel; and you have told me, that you have never ſeen them.

We enter on the South-ſide of the Garden, between two ſquare Pavilions of the *Doric* Order, the Work of Sir *John Vanbrugh*; and are ſtruck with the ſurpriſing Grandeur and Variety of the Objects that preſent themſelves to View, of which I ſhall give a brief Account in Order, as we paſs them.

Firſt, then, in the Middle of a large Octagon Piece of Water, ſtands an Obeliſk of near 70 Feet, for a *Jet-d'-Eau* to caſcade from the Top of it. At a good Diſtance we behold two beautiful Rivers, which join, and enter the Octagon in one Stream. Over one of the Rivers is a *Palladian* Bridge, which is an agreeable Object. A *Gothic* Building, 70 Feet high, preſents itſelf on the Summit of a fine Hill; dedicated to *Liberty*.

Here we have likewiſe a View of the South Front of the Houſe, up an Avenue of ſtately Trees; but have great Objections to the Narrowneſs of it: however, ſince every Tree may be deemed a ſort of Obeliſk to the Honour of the noble Planter, it makes a good Excuſe for their ſtanding; and the rather, as, if they were taken away, it would create an Evil, which could not be remedied in 40 Years.

As

As the *Gothic* Building is on the Right-hand, ſo on the Left appears an *Egyptian* Pyramid, dedicated to the Memory of Sir *John Vanbrugh*.

In ſhort, here is ſuch a Scene of Magnificence and Nature diſplay'd, the Fields abounding with Cattle, the Trees and Water ſo delightfully intermingled, and ſuch a charming Verdure, Symmetry, and Proportion, every-where preſenting to the Eye, that the Judgment is agreeably puzzled, which ſingly to prefer of ſo many collected Beauties.

Leaving this Point, and on the Left-hand paſſing by three Statues, we come to the Cold-bath, from whence we behold a natural Caſcade falling down from the before-mentioned Octagon, in three different Sheets of Water, into a large Lake. One of the Sheets glides thro' an Arch, or Piece of Ruin, which is moſtly hid by a Clump of Ever-greens; but his Lordſhip, as we are told, deſigns to make a good deal of Amendment to it, tho' at preſent it has a very natural and agreeable Appearance.

From hence we proceed to the Hermitage, which is agreeably ſituated in a riſing Wood, and by the Side of the Lake; and, paſſing thro' the Wood, we came to the Statues of *Cain* and *Abel*, fronting the *Veneris Hortus*, a very neat Structure, deſigned by Mr. *Kent*, the Inſide of it painted by Mr. *Sleter*; and on the Frize is the following Motto, alluding to the Painting in the Cave:

Nunc amet, qui nondum amavit;
Quique amavit, nunc amet.

Which is,

He who ne'er lov'd, a Lover grow;
And he who has—continue ſo.

Here is likewiſe a *Sophia*. Each Way, from the Entrance of the Room, is an handſome Colonnade,

leading to ſquare Tabernacles or Pavilions. Here are alſo four venerable antique Buſtoes, of *Veſpaſian*, *Nero*, *Cleopatra*, and *Fauſtina*.

Hence to the Head of the Lake we have a pleaſant View of the Caſcade; and from hence to *Gibbs*'s Building, or the *Belvidere*, which is placed on the Top of the Mount, is a noble Proſpect of the Houſe, the Church, the Effigies of his preſent Majeſty, and the late Queen; the Rotonda; the Caſtle; which a Farmer now inhabits, and was built for that Purpoſe; but on account of its being ſeated on the Side of a fine riſing Hill, makes a beautiful Appearance, as well from hence, as from many other Places.

In the Garden is likewiſe the Temple of *Friendſhip*, from which the Pavilion at the Entrance, the Caſcade, the Lake, one of the Fields that is incloſed in the Garden, all together afford a Scene truly charming.

From hence to *Boycoat* Buildings, paſſing thro' a pleaſant Wood with ſeveral agreeable Proſpects into the Country, we ſee on our Right-hand a noble Terrace. One of the Buildings is a very good habitable Houſe; the other ſtands on a ſquare Bottom in the Garden; and in the Inſide of it are four Statues at full Length, in Niches; viz. *Cicero*, *Fauſtina*, *Marcus Aurelius*, and *Livia*. The Buildings are both finiſhed with pyramidical Tops, by *Gibbs*. Betwixt them is a very handſome Gateway, which is the ſecond Entrance to the Houſe, from which leads up a noble Avenue, planted with double Lines of thriveing Trees.

From hence to the *Egyptian* Pyramid mentioned before, which is 60 Feet high, and about half-way up, is this Inſcription in very large Characters:

Inter plurima hortorum horum ædificia a JOHANNE VANBRUGH, *equite, deſignata, hanc pyramidem*

dem illius memoriæ ſacram eſſe voluit COBHAM.

In *Engliſh* thus:

Among a very great Number of Structures in theſe Gardens, deſigned by Sir JOHN VANBRUGH, *Knight,* COBHAM *thought fit, that this Pyramid ſhould be ſacred to his Memory.*

And in the Inſide of the Building is the following Inſcription:

Luſiſti ſatis, ediſti ſatis, atque bibiſti:
Tempus abire tibi eſt; ne potum largius æquo
Rideat et pulſet laſciva decentius ætas.

Which may be thus tranſlated:

Enough you've ſported, quaff'd the Bowl, and eat:
'Tis time that from the Banquet you retreat;
Leſt Youth, more fitly frolickſome, may join
To puſh you, reeling under Loads of Wine.

From hence going along a ſort of Fortification-walk on our Left-hand, the Wood on the other Hand, we enter the Field, which is incloſed in a military Way, with a ſtaked Fence. At the firſt Angle, on the Middle of the Gravel-walk, are the Statues of *Hercules* and *Anteus*. Hence we proceed to St. *Auguſtine*'s Cave, which is a Building of Roots of Trees and Moſs; and in it a Straw Couch, with three Inſcriptions in Monkiſh *Latin* Verſe. It is placed in a natural Wood, and from the Oddneſs of the Fabric, and the agreeable Simplicity which is round it, makes a very entertaining Variety.

Leaving this Place, we approach a Building of a very different Nature—the Temple of *Bacchus*, built of Brick, with Paintings in the Inſide alluding to the Name. Here we have a fine diſtant Proſpect toward

Aylesbury and *Wendover* Hills, &c. In the Garden we have in full View the Temple of *Venus*: and between the two is an Obelisk erected to the Memory of a Clergyman, with this Inscription:

To the Memory of ROBIN COUCHER.

We proceeded from hence to the *Saxon* Temple, which is a solemn Grove with the seven *Saxon* Deities, presiding over the several Days of the Week, placed in Niches; and in the Middle of them stands an Altar, as for Sacrifice. All the Statues are extremely good, and this Scene agreeably strikes the Mind with Serenity and Composure.

Our Eye, after being confined in the Wood, breaking at once out of it, we are surprised with a fine open Country on the North: on the South, the Rotonda appears: on the West, the *Boycoat* Buildings: on the East, the Equestrian Statue of the late King, which stands in the Front of the House. These Objects present themselves from *Nelson*'s Seat, which is an oblong square Recess in a Clump of Ever-greens. To the South-east is a View of the Mansion-house, which is an extraordinary good one; but, his Lordship annually adding to and improving it, one may safely say, that it will not be much inferior to the best House in *England*, if his Lordship's Design be finished.

The Offices on the North-side are all inclosed within a most elegant Wall, with Niches, and grand Gateways into the Offices and Gardens. The House and Offices, when perfected, will be about 640 Feet in Length, fronting North and South. As *Nelson*'s Seat lies to the North-west from the Portico of the House, there is on the North-east a new Bastion built to answer it; and some grand Walks by the Side of a fine Lawn, from which we see numerous Herds of Deer. A Semicircle of fine Timber appears at some Miles Distance, with an agreeable Country between.

The

The next Object of View is a *Corinthian* Column, on which is the Statue of his preſent Majeſty, with this Inſcription:

GEORGIO AVGVSTO.

Here we have a moſt delightful Proſpect over the Country; and in the Garden ſeveral of the Buildings preſent themſelves with great Pomp. The Lake, whoſe Bounds are beautifully concealed, adds much to the general Agreeableneſs of the Place.

Dido's Cave is the next Subject of our Attention: this is a Stone Building, in a Wood, and raiſed on a ſort of Amphitheatre, with this Inſcription:

Speluncam Dido, *dux et* Trojanus, *eandem*
Deveniunt——

In *Engliſh* thus:

Repairing to the ſame dark Cave are ſeen
The Trojan *Hero, and the* Tyrian *Queen.*

From hence we advance to the Rotonda, which is a neat airy Building by Sir *John Vanbrugh.* The Dome of it ſupported on ten *Doric* Columns; and in the Centre, ſtanding on a circular Pedeſtal, a *Venus à Medicis.* From this Place we have a View of Part of the Octagon; the Lake, the Fields, and ſeveral of the Buildings, preſenting themſelves alternately as we turn ourſelves round.

As we go from hence to the late Queen's Statue, by the Side of a Canal, we are delighted with an Alteration of his Lordſhip's; *viz.* On each Side, the Ground is broken, and planted with Clumps of various Kinds of Trees, intermixt with Statues, which are promiſcuouſly placed. Her late Majeſty's Effigies is erected on four *Ionic* Columns, which are placed on a large Pedeſtal, with this Inſcription in golden Letters:

Honori, Laudi, Virtuti Divæ CAROLINÆ.

That is,

To the Honour, Praiſe, and Virtue of the Divine CAROLINE.

It is ſituated on a neat Amphitheatre of Slopes, with paſtoral Figures each Way from it. Nature and Art here, joining together, make an agreeable Contraſt.

Next we are led into the Sleeping-parlour, which is a ſquare Building placed in a Wood with ſix Walks centring in it. Within, are painted the *Cæſars* Heads, with ſeveral Feſtons of Fruit, &c. On the Frize is this Inſcription:

Cum omnia ſint in incerto, fave tibi.

Which is,

Since all things are uncertain, indulge thyſelf.

Leaving this Place, and croſſing the Avenue before-mentioned, from the Pavilions we come to the Witch-houſe, a ſquare Building, the Inſide of which is painted, by my Lord's Gentleman, with ſeveral Devices alluding to the Name.

We arrive next at the Temple of *Antient Virtue*, a Rotonda of the *Doric* Order, by Mr. *Kent*: and in four Niches, ſtanding at full Lengths, are the four following Statues; *viz.*

I. EPAMINONDAS, with this Inſcription over his Head:

Cujus a virtute, prudentia, verecundia,
Thebanorum reſpublica
Libertatem ſimul et imperium,
Diſciplinam bellicam, civilem, et domeſticam,
Accepit;
Eoque amiſſo, perdidit.

That is,

From whoſe Valour, Prodence, and Moderation, the Republic of *Thebes* received both Liberty and Empire,

Empire, its military, civil, and domeſtic Diſcipline; and, with him, loſt them.

II. LYCURGUS, with this:

Qui ſummo cum conſilio inventis legibus,
Omnemque contra corruptelam munitis optime,
Pater patriæ,
Libertatem firmiſſimam,
Et mores ſanctiſſimos,
Expulſa cum divitiis avaritia, luxuria, libidine,
In multa ſecula
Civibus ſuis inſtituit.

Thus tranſlated:

Who, having invented Laws with the greateſt Wiſdom, and moſt excellently fenced them againſt all Corruption, as a Father of his Country, inſtituted for his Countrymen the firmeſt Liberty, and the ſoundeſt Morality, which endured for many Ages, he having, together with Riches, baniſhed Avarice, Luxury, and Luſt.

III. SOCRATES,

Qui corruptiſſima in civitate innocens,
Bonorum hortator, unici cultor DEI,
Ab inutili otio, et vanis diſputationibus,
Ad officia vitæ, et ſocietatis commoda,
Philoſophiam avocavit,
Hominum ſapientiſſimus.

That is,

Who, being innocent in a moſt corrupt State, an Encourager of the Good, a Worſhiper of One only GOD, as the wiſeſt of Men, reduced Philoſophy from uſeleſs Indolence, and vain Diſputations, to the Duties of Life, and the Advantages of Society.

IV. HOMERUS,

Qui poetarum princeps, idem et maximus,
Virtutis præco, et immortalitatis largitor,
Divino carmine,
Ad pulcre audendum, et patiendum fortiter,
Omnibus notus gentibus, omnes incitat.

Thus rendered:

Who, being the firſt of Poets, as he was the greateſt, the Herald of Virtue, and Beſtower of Immortality, known to all Nations, incites all, in a Divine Poem, honourably to dare, and reſolutely to ſuffer.

Over one Door is this Inſcription:

Charum eſſe civem, bene de republica mereri, laudari, coli, diligi, glorioſum eſt: metui vero, et in odio eſſe, invidioſum, deteſtabile, imbecillum, caducum.

Which is:

To be dear to our Country, to deſerve well of the State, to be praiſed, honoured, and beloved, is glorious: but to be dreaded, and hated, is matter of Ill-will, deteſtable, weak, ruinous.

Over the other Door this:

Juſtitiam cole et pietatem, quæ cum ſit magna in parentibus et propinquis, tum in patria maxima eſt. Ea vita via eſt in cœlum, et in hunc cœtum eorum, qui jam vixerunt.

In *Engliſh* thus:

Maintain Juſtice, and thy relative Duty; which, as it is great, when exerciſed toward our Parents and Kindred, ſo is greateſt toward our Country. That Life is the Way to Heaven, and to this Aſſembly of thoſe, who have already lived.

From

From this Place we have no diſtant Proſpect; but, notwithſtanding that, it abounds with laſting Beauties: it is really placed in a ſort of Paradiſe; and, things riſing adequate to that Name, you ſee *Friendſhip* flouriſhing in immortal Youth; in the *Elyſian Fields* are many great and virtuous Mens Names perpetuated, who have diſtinguiſhed themſelves in *this* World by anſwering the End of their Creation. Near this Place alſo is a good Emblem of thoſe who have deviated from it, in the *Ruin*. Here are ſweet purling Streams, reſembling the melodious Sounds of Birds, *&c.*

We are now not far from the Pariſh-church, which is ſo cloſely ſurrounded with a Wood, as not to be ſeen. From hence we come to the Side of a River, where

Unpoliſh'd Nature cannot boaſt a Part;
For Chance too regular, too rude for Art.

And by its winding Banks we are led up to a Grotto, decorated with Shells, Pebbles, and Minerals. Here is likewiſe a Shell-pavilion, the Dome of which is ſupported by ſix wreathed Columns. The Inſide of it hath ſeveral Marks performed from Shells, and divers other Imbelliſhments. On the oppoſite Side is another of Pebbles.

Hence we proceed to the three-arched Building, which is a pleaſant Receſs, by the Banks of the River; and in paſſing we ſee *Antient Virtue* peeping on the South-ſide of us. The Church we have in full View on the Weſt. To the Eaſt is ſituated the *Chineſe* Houſe, a Building in the Pond, the Outſide of it painted very ingeniouſly, in the *Chineſe* Taſte, by the celebrated Mr. *Sleter*. The Inſide of it is *Indian* Japan.

The Shell Bridge leads us from hence into the *Elyſian Fields*, the moſt charming Place that ever Eyes beheld. It may not be improper here to give the

following Lines, which were left by an unknown Gentleman, on his Entrance into them:

To Lord COBHAM.

Charm'd with the Sight, my raviſh'd Breaſt is fir'd
With Hints like thoſe, which antient Bards inſpir'd.
All the feign'd Tales, by Superſtition told,
All the bright Train of fabled Nymphs of old,
Th' enthuſiaſtic Muſe believes, are true;
Thinks the Spot ſacred, and its Genius YOU.
Loſt in wild Rapture, would ſhe fain diſcloſe,
How by degrees the pleaſing Wonder roſe:
Induſtrious in a faithful Verſe to trace
The various Beauties of the lovely Place;
And, while ſhe keeps the glowing Work in View,
Thro' ev'ry Maze your artful Hand purſue, *&c.*

We are now come to the Monuments of *Britiſh* Worthies; the firſt of which is Mr. POPE. The Gentleman, if a Gentleman, who left the following Lines on this great Poet's Buſto, beſt knows what he meant by them:

For LOVE ſome worſhip; ſome for FEAR:
Aſk'ſt thou, my Friend, how POPE came here?

The next is Sir THOMAS GRESHAM, with this Inſcription:

Who, by the honourable Profeſſion of Merchant, having enriched himſelf, and his Country; for carrying on the Commerce of the World, built the ROYAL EXCHANGE.

INIGO JONES,

Who, to adorn his Country, introduced and rivalled the *Greek* and *Roman* Architecture.

JOHN MILTON,

Whoſe ſublime and unbounded Genius equalled a

Subject

Subject that carried him beyond the Limits of this World.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE,

Whoſe excellent Genius opened to him the whole Heart of Man, all the Stores of Nature; and gave him Power, beyond all other Writers, to move, aſtoniſh, and delight Mankind.

Sir ISAAC NEWTON,

Whom the GOD of Nature made to comprehend all his Works; and from ſimple Principles to diſcover the Laws never known, and to explain the Appearances never underſtood, of this ſtupendous Univerſe.

Sir FRANCIS BACON, Lord VERULAM,

Who, by the Strength of a ſuperior Genius, rejecting vain Speculation, and fallacious Theory, taught to purſue and improve Philoſophy by the certain Method of Experiment.

In the Niche of a Pyramid is placed a *Mercury*, with theſe Words ſubſcribed:

——CAMPOS DUCIT AD ELYSIOS.

That is,

——Leads to th' *Elyſian* Fields.

And below this Figure is fixed a Square of black Marble, with the following Lines:

Hic manus ob patriam pugnando vulnera paſſi,
Quique pii vates, et Phœbo digna locuti,
Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes,
Quique ſui memores alios fecere merendo.

Thus tranſlated:

Here are the Bands who for their Country bled;
And Bards whoſe pure and ſacred Verſe is read:

Thoſe

Thoſe who, by Arts invented, Life improv'd;
And by their Merits made their Mem'ries lov'd.

King ALFRED,

The mildeſt, juſteſt, moſt beneficent of Kings, who drove out the *Danes*, ſecured the Seas, ſupported Learning, eſtabliſhed Juries, cruſhed Corruption, guarded Liberty, and was the Founder of the *Engliſh* Conſtitution.

EDWARD Prince of WALES,

The Terror of *Europe*, and Delight of *England*; who preſerved unaltered, in the Height of Glory, his natural Gentleneſs and Modeſty.

Queen ELIZABETH,

Who confounded the Projects, and deſtroyed the Deſigns, of *Spain*, who threatened to oppreſs the Liberty of *Europe*; took off the Yoke of Eccleſiaſtical Tyranny; reſtored Religion from the Corruptions of Popery; and by a wiſe, a moderate, and a popular Government, gave Wealth, Health, Security, to *England*.

King WILLIAM the Third,

Who by his Virtue and Conſtancy having ſaved his Country from a foreign Maſter, by a bold and generous Enterprize, preſerved the Liberty and Religion of *Great Britain*.

Sir WALTER RALEGH,

A valiant Soldier, and an able Stateſman; who, endeavouring to rouſe the Spirit of his Maſter, for the Honour of his Country, againſt the Ambition of *Spain*, fell a Sacrifice to that Court, whoſe Arms he had vanquiſhed, and whoſe Deſigns he had oppoſed.

Sir FRANCIS DRAKE,

Who, through many Perils, was the firſt of *Britons* that adventured to ſail round the Globe, and carry into unknown Seas the Knowlege and Glory of the *Engliſh* Name.

JOHN HAMPDEN,

Who with great Spirit, and conſummate Ability, began a noble Oppoſition to an arbitrary Court, in Defence of the Liberties of his Country; ſupported them in Parliament; and died for them in the Field.

Sir JOHN BARNARD,
With no Inſcription.

Leaving this incomparably ſweet Place with great Regret, as every one who ſees it muſt, we came to a Monument, with this Inſcription:

Signor FIDO,

An *Italian* of good Extraction, who came into *England*, not to bite us, like moſt of his Countrymen, but to gain an honourable Livelihood. He hunted not after Fame; yet acquired it: regardleſs of the Praiſe of his Friends, but moſt ſenſible of their Love. Tho' he lived among the Great, he neither learnt nor flattered any Vice. He was no Bigot, nor doubted he of any of the XXXIX. Articles: and if to follow Nature, and reſpect the Laws of Society, be Philoſophy, he was a perfect Philoſopher; a faithful Friend, and an agreeable Companion, a loving Huſband, and diſtinguiſhed by a numerous Offspring, all which he lived to ſee take good Courſes; and in his Old-age retired to the Houſe of a Clergyman in the Country, where he finiſhed his earthly Race, and died an Honour and Example to the whole Species. Reader, this Stone is guiltleſs of Flattery; for he, to whom

it

it was inſcribed, was not a Man, but a GREY-HOUND.

Croſſing the Field to the *Gothic* Building before-deſcribed, we have a boundleſs Proſpect round the Building. From hence we deſcend a fine Hill; and on our Left-hand ſee a Plantation of Ever-greens; on our Right, the Well deſigned, and Rivers deſcribed, from the Pavilion. This Walk leads us down to a very handſome Bridge over one of the Rivers. The Roof, on the Side facing the Water, is ſupported by *Ionic* Columns; the Back-ſide of it by an *Alto-Relievo* of the four Quarters of the World, bringing their Products to *Britannia*. Here are likewiſe painted by Mr. *Sleter*, Sir *Walter Ralegh*, with a Map of *Virginia* in his Hand; and Sir *William Penn*, holding a Book ſtyled the Laws of *Penſylvania*. Here are, beſides, a great many modern and antique Buſtoes of Marble.

We now viſit the *Imperial* Cloſet, which is a Room very near the Form of a Cube; and in it are the three following Figures, painted at full Length by Mr. *Sleter*:

IMP. TITUS CÆS. VESPASIAN:

With his Saying over his Head, *Diem perdidi*, I have loſt a Day.

IMP. TRAJAN. CÆS.

With his Saying, *Pro me: ſi merear, in me.* For me: but if I deſerve it, againſt me.

IMP. MARCUS AURELIUS CÆSAR ANTONINUS,

With his Saying, *Ita regas imperator, ut privatus regi velis.*— So govern when an Emperor, as, if a private Perſon, you would deſire to be governed.

Paſſing a noble Iron Gate, at the End of a fine Terrace, of 1990 Feet in Length, and Breadth proportionable,

portionable, which leads to the *Veneris Hortus*, we come to the Temple of *Friendſhip*, a lofty, ſquare Building, of the *Doric* Order, with three noble Porticoes on the Sides, which appear to the Garden. The Cave and Cieling are painted with Hiſtory-pieces, by Mr. *Sleter*. At the Bottom of the Room are placed ten Pedeſtals, for the Buſtoes of his Lordſhip, and nine of his ſelect Friends. Thoſe of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of *Wales*, the Earl of *Cheſterfield*, Lord *Cobham*, and Mr. *William Pitt*, were erected when I was there.

The Pebble-Alcove is a neat Receſs, and very artfully imbelliſhed with Pebbles. His Lordſhip's Arms are performed with the ſame, and diſplayed in proper Colours.

Congreve's Monument is an Urn, which with great Art expreſſes the Genius of the Man; and at the Top of it is placed a Monkey, beholding himſelf in a Mirror, and under him this Writing:

Vitæ imitatio,
Conſuetudinis ſpeculum,
Comœdia.

That is,

Comedy is the Imitation of Life, and the Glaſs of Faſhion.

The Poet's Effigies, lying in a careleſs Poſture, has the following Inſcription:

Ingenio
Acri, faceto, expolito,
Moribuſque
Urbanis, candidis, facillimis,
GULIELMI CONGREVE,
Hoc
Qualecunque deſiderii ſui
Solamen ſimul et

Monu-

Monumentum
Poſuit COBHAM
M.DCC.XXXVI.

Thus tranſlated.

In the Year 1736. COBHAM erected this poor Conſolation for, as well as Monument of, his Loſs of the piercing, elegant, poliſhed Wit, and civilized, candid, moſt unaffected Manners, of WILLIAM CONGREVE.

We are now very near the Pavilions; and in going to them, walk by the Side of the River and Octagon, paſſing, on our Left-hand, three *Satyrs*, and a *dancing Venus*.

I have now gone round, and given you a faint Deſcription of an unparalleled Chain of artificial and natural Beauty; and, to make uſe of Mr. *Pope*'s Lines,

Here Order in Variety you ſee,
Where all things differ, yet where all agree.

His Lordſhip's Judgment and refined Taſte are not leſs conſpicuous in his Woods and Parks.

And thus much for .theſe famous Gardens at *Stow*.

Going ſtill farther Northward from *Buckingham*, we come to the following Towns:

Stony Stratford is remarkable for ſtanding on the *Roman* Cauſeway, called *Watling-ſtreet*. It is an antient and well-known Thoroughfare-town, in the *Cheſter* Road from *London*. It is large, and well-built of Stone, has two Churches in it, and a Croſs erected by *Edward* I. to the Honour of his Queen *Eleanor*, and has a good Stone Bridge over the River. The .principal Manufacture, as well in the Neighbourhood as in the Town, is Bone-lace.

This Town was deſtroyed by Fire in the Month of

of *May* 1743. which began in an Houſe near the lower Part of the lower Town, about ten of the Clock in the Morning, at which time the Wind blew very ſtrong at Eaſt; and moſt of the Houſes being thatched, in one Hour all that Side of the lower Town was deſtroyed, and Part of the oppoſite Side, as alſo the Church: but the moſt remarkable thing was, that this Fire was communicated from thence to the upper Town, croſs the River, and over a large Extent of Meadow, which is generally ſuppoſed to have been done by a Picture, which was blown (being on Fire) from the lower Town, and falling upon a thatched Houſe in the upper, the Fire ſoon ſpread, and intirely deſtroyed the whole Town.

Newport-Pagnell is a large, well-built, populous Town, ſeated on the River *Ouze*, over which it has Two large Stone Bridges. It carries on a great Trade in Bone-lace, and the ſame Manufacture employs alſo the neighbouring Villages.

Oulney is a pretty good Town, where alſo is carried on a conſiderable Manufacture of Bone-lace. It lies on the Extremity of the County.

We then fell down, back again, to *Buckingham*; and following the great Road North-weſt, we came to *Brackley* in *Northamptonſhire*, ſituate on the River *Ouze*, an antient large corporate Town, in which are two Pariſh-Churches. It had formerly a College, but it is now uſed for a Free-ſchool. It is governed by a Mayor and Aldermen; and the Market was once the Staple for Wool, in that County. This Town ſends two Members to Parliament.

We next came to *Banbury* in *Oxfordſhire*, on the River *Charwell*. It is a large Market-town, under the Government of a Mayor and Aldermen. It has a conſiderable Trade, eſpecially in Cheeſe, as all the Country round it is a rich feeding Meadow-ground.

Here

Here the famous *Make-king*, Earl of *Warwick*, ſurpriſed the Earl of *Pembroke* and his Brother, of the Party of *Edward* IV. and beheaded them. This Place returns one Member to Parliament.

On the Borders of this County Weſtward from this Town in *Warwickſhire*, was the famous Battle of *Edge-hill*, fought between the Forces of King *Charles* I. and thoſe of the Parliament; where, tho' the Victory was dubious, yet the Advantage, in the Event, inclined to the King's Side; for he thereupon took Lord *Say*'s Houſe at *Broughton*, and *Banbury* Caſtle, in which were 800 Foot, and a Troop of Horſe.

Edge-hill lies at the Weſt-end of the Vale of *Redhorſe*, and gives a moſt extenſive Proſpect. It is ſteep to the North, and on the Top, at *Warmlington*, is a ſtrong large Intrenchment, ſaid to be *Daniſh*, but looks more like *Britiſh*. On the Deſcent of the Hill, between *Radway* and *Keynton*, was fought the aforementioned Battle; here alſo they ſhew where the Slain were buried, and have a Tradition, that King *John* had a Palace, and reſided, at *Keynton*.

There was likewiſe, at *Cropredy-Bridge*, an Encounter between the Royaliſts and the Parliamentarians under *Waller*'s Command.

Weſt of *Edge-hill* ſtands *Shipton*, a little Town, which has a very large Market.

From hence we rode Southward to *Deddington*, a large Town, but a very ſmall Market. It is governed by a Bailiff, and formerly returned Members to Parliament.

We turned a little Eaſt, and came to *Biceſter*, a ſtraggling, indifferent Town; but remarkable for having had once a famous City in its Neighbourhood, called *Aldcheſter*, long ſince paſſed over by the Plough; and where many *Roman* Coins, Stones, and other Antiquities, are found; which was undoubtedly

the

the *Maima* of *Ravennas*. *Biceſter* is famous for excellent Malt-liquor, and has had formerly a Religious Houſe.

Iſlip lying directly in our Way to *Oxford*, we paſſed thro' it. It is remarkable for the Birth of *Edward the Confeſſor*, and that Dr. *South*, as well as other eminent Divines, were Miniſters here. There are ſome Remains of an antient Palace ſtill left.

From hence I came to *Oxford*, famous for ſeveral things, but chiefly for its being the moſt flouriſhing and conſiderable Univerſity in the World.

There has been a long Conteſt between the two *Engliſh* Univerſities, about the Priority of their Foundations, which perhaps will never be decided, and ſo I paſs it over.

It is out of Queſtion, that, in the Largeneſs of the Place, the Beauty of Situation, the Number of Inhabitants, and of Scholars, *Oxford* has the Advantage. In ſhort, *Oxford* has ſeveral things as an Univerſity, which *Cambridge* has not; and *Cambridge* has ſeveral things in it, which cannot be found in *Oxford*. For Example,

The Theatre, the Muſeum or Chamber of Rarities, the *Bodleian* Library, the Number of Colleges, and the Magnificence of their Buildings, are on the Side of *Oxford*: yet *King's-College* Chapel and College are in favour of *Cambridge*, being the fineſt Structures of the kind that can be ſeen; and the new Buildings erected lately there make that whole Univerſity ſtill more conſiderable in this way.

Oxford is a noble populous City, Univerſity, and Biſhoprick, ſo richly poſſeſſed of all that can contribute to make the Reſidence of the Scholars eaſy and comfortable, that no Spot of Ground in *England* goes beyond it. It is ſituated in a delightful Plain, on the Bank of a fine navigable River, in a plentiful Country, and at an eaſy Diſtance from *London*.

Cam-

Cambridge, on the contrary, is a mean Town, not dignified with the Name of a City or Epiſcopal See, ſeated among marſhy Grounds; and tho' it ſends two Members to Parliament as a Borough, and two as an Univerſity, yet would be intirely neglected, from the Badneſs of the Situation, and the Indolence of its Inhabitants, were it not for the Luſtre it receives from the Univerſity, and the many learned Men it has produced to the Honour of the Nation at home and abroad.

I ſhall preſent you, Sir, with a Liſt of the Colleges and Halls in the Univerſity of *Oxford*, together with a brief Hiſtory of them; but muſt obſerve, that as it would exceed my Limits to give an Account of the particular Benefactions by which their Revenues and Buildings are ſo ſplendidly augmented, I ſhall only mention ſuch of thoſe Benefactions as have been conferred within ſo few Years back, that they are not likely to be found in other Writers.

Of the Colleges *and* Halls *in* OXFORD.

1. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

IS ſituate near the Eaſt Gate of the City. 'Tis ſo very antient, that we are left in the dark, as to the Time of its Foundation. That it was in being before the Year 721. is certain; but how much ſooner, is not evident. King *Alfred* could not be ſo properly called the Founder of this Univerſity, as the Reſtorer, after the *Daniſh* Devaſtations. In the Year 1332. this College was recovered into a State of Liberty and Independency, by a Sum of Money, which *William* of *Durham* had left for the Maintenance of a Society of Students in *Oxford*, from whom it was ſome time called *Durham-hall*; and by other Benefactions it increaſed to what it now is. It has one Maſter,

Maſter, twelve Fellows, ſeventeen Scholars, two Exhibitioners, &c.

Before the very noble Benefaction of Dr. *Radcliffe*, it had one large, beautiful Quadrangle, or ſquare Court; the South-ſide of which is divided into an handſome Hall and Chapel. In a Niche before the ſaid Quadrangle is a Statue of the late Queen *Anne*; and in a Niche on the Inſide of the new Quadrangle, ſince built, is that of Dr. *Radcliffe*; but not extraordinary either of them. The Additions to this College will be mentioned in the Abſtract we ſhall by-and-by give of Dr. *Radcliffe*'s Will.

The Viſitors are the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors.

2. BALIOL-COLLEGE

Stands in the North Part of the Town, in the Suburbs. It was founded by *John Baliol*, Father to the King of *Scots* of that Name, and *Devorguilla* his Wife. The former began it about the Year 1262. the latter, after her Huſband's Death, completed and ended it, and gave it a Body of Statutes, which was afterwards inlarged by *Philip Somerville*, a great Benefactor to this College; but that Body was afterwards laid aſide, and a more advantageous one ſubſtituted in its room, *Ann.* 1507. by the then Biſhops of *Wincheſter* and *Carliſle*. This College has one Maſter, twelve Fellows, thirteen Scholars, and eighteen Exhibitioners, including four founded by *John Warner* Biſhop of *Rocheſter*, for *Scotſmen*.

It has one large, antient Quadrangle, on the North-ſide of which is the Chapel, and the Library, furniſhed with a very noble Collection of Books. Sir *Thomas Wendy* gave his Study to it, a few Years ago, valued at 1500 *l.*

The Viſitor is choſen by the College.

3. MER-

3. Merton-College,

Situate on the South-ſide of the City, was founded by *Walter* of *Merton*, Biſhop of *Rocheſter*, Lord High Chancellor of *England*. The Society was firſt planted at *Maldern* in *Surry*, in 1264. and he transferred it to *Oxford*, *Anno* 1267. The Founder framed his Statutes ſo admirably, that they were propoſed as a Pattern to the Founder of *Peter-houſe*, *Cambridge*, by King *Edward* I. This College has a Warden, twenty-four Fellows, fourteen Portioniſts, or Poſt-maſters, and two Clerks.

The Chapel is the Pariſh-Church of *St. John Baptiſt*; it is a ſplendid old Building. The inner large Court or Quadrangle of the College is very beautiful; it has a very well furniſhed Library, and a fine Garden.

The Viſitor is the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*.

4. Exeter-College

Is ſituate on the Weſt-ſide of the Schools, in the North Part of the Town. It was founded *Anno* 1316. by *Walter Stapledon* Biſhop of *Exeter*, Privy-Counſellor to *Edward* II. and Lord Treaſurer of *England*, and named *Stapledon-Inn*; and called *Exeter-College* afterwards, by *Edmund Stafford* Biſhop of *Exeter*, who was a Benefactor to it. It has a Rector, twenty-three Fellows, one Bible-Clerk, and three Exhibitioners.

It is one large Quadrangle, now made regular and uniform by the new Buildings, to which the moſt Reverend Dr. *Narciſſus Marſh* Archbiſhop of *Armagh*, formerly a Fellow of it, contributed 1400 *l.* It has a very noble Front, over the Gate of which is a ſplendid Tower.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Exeter*.

5. Oriel-College,

Situate on the South-ſide of the Town, was at firſt called *St. Mary's-College*, and *King's-College*, and was

was founded *Anno* 1324. by *Adam le Brome*, Almoner to King *Edward* II. His Son *Edward* III. inlarging the Revenue of it with a rich Meſſuage, called *Le Oriele*, it took the Name of *Oriel-College*. The ſame Prince annexed to it for a Retiring-place, in caſe of Peſtilence, *&c.* *St. Bartholomew's Hoſpital* near *Oxford*. It has a Provoſt, eighteen Fellows, and twelve Exhibitioners. It conſiſts of one handſome regular Quadrangle.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Lincoln*.

6. QUEEN'S-COLLEGE

Is ſituate near the Pariſh-Church of *St. Peter's in the Eaſt*. It was founded *Anno* 1340. by *Robert Eglesfield*, Chaplain or Confeſſor to *Philippa*, Conſort of King *Edward* III. in Honour of whom he called it *Queen's-College*, recommending it to her Royal Patronage and Protection, and to that of all future Queens of *England*. There were to be a Provoſt and twelve Fellows, out of Regard to the Number of Chriſt and his Apoſtles, and ſeventy Scholars, in alluſion to the Number of the ſeventy Diſciples; but he died before his Deſign was completed. The Society conſiſts of a Provoſt, ſixteen Fellows, ſixteen Scholars, eight Chaplains, nine Taberders, and twenty Exhibitioners.

Sir *Joſeph Williamſon* was a ſpecial Benefactor to this College, of late Times, as *Edward* III. his Queen, Archbiſhop *Grindall*, and King *Charles* I. were before. As alſo was its late Provoſt, Dr. *William Lancaſter*, in whoſe Time were begun thoſe noble and extenſive Buildings, which are ſo juſtly admired; one Side whereof, in which are the Library, the Provoſt's, and other ſpacious and ſtately Lodgings, is 327 Feet long, ſupported by a Piazza, and adorned with Statues, *&c.* The Library is long and lofty, very magnificent without, and well-fur-

niſhed within. The new Chapel and Hall, lately finiſhed, anſwer the other Side of the College.

On the 24th of *May* 1733. *Arthur Onſlow*, Eſq; Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, and Chancellor to her late Majeſty Queen *Caroline*, tranſmitted to the Provoſt 1000 *l.* from her Majeſty, as Queen Conſort, and Patroneſs thereof, towards finiſhing the new Buildings; and her Majeſty's Statue is erected there under a kind of Temple, ſupported by Pillars; but not to the Advantage which the Royal Munificence, and the good Intentions of the College, deſerved.

And in the Year 1739. we were aſſured, that Mr. *Michael* of *Richmond* has left an Eſtate of 700 *l.* *per Annum* to this College, the Income whereof is to finiſh the Eaſt End of the Buildings of the ſaid College on the Plan laid down for that Purpoſe, and after this to commence a Foundation of eight Fellows, at 50 *l.* *per Annum* each, and as many Scholars, at 25 *l.* *per Annum* each, to be elected from the whole Univerſity; thoſe on the preſent Foundation to be excluded. The Fellowſhips to be vacated after ten Years Enjoyment; as they are at *Wadham*, *Worceſter*, and *Pembroke* Colleges, after twenty Years.

The Viſitor of this College is the Archbiſhop of *York*.

7. New-College,

Situate on the North-eaſt Part of the Town, was at firſt called, *The College of the Bleſſed Virgin* Mary; it was founded *Anno* 1386. by *William* of *Wickham*, Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, and Lord High Chancellor, who alſo founded the College at *Wincheſter*. It has a Warden, ſeventy Fellows, ten Chaplains, three Clerks, ſixteen Choriſters, *&c.*

Great Additions have been made to the Beauty and Buildings of this College: beſides a third Story that

that was raiſed upon the two original ones of the great Court, at the Society's Expence, *Anno* 1674. they have inlarged their Buildings towards the Garden, with two ſtately and uniform Wings, extending to the Garden; their Chapel is moſt magnificent, ſolemn and ſplendid, with an Organ and Choir. They have a very lofty Tower, with a Ring of fine Bells; and under that and the Weſt End of the Chapel, a very handſome ſquare Cloiſter, and a little Garden within it. Their Library is well furniſhed with Books and Manuſcripts, and their great Garden laid out in Form. The Front of it is a Range of Iron Paliſadoes, and a Gate of exquiſite Work; and at the South End they have a Bowling-green. Their Hall, .which is at the End of the Chapel, anſwers to the Magnificence of the reſt.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Wincheſter*.

8. LINCOLN-COLLEGE,

Situate in the Middle of the City, was founded in the Year 1427. by *Richard Fleming*, Biſhop of *Lincoln*; who dying before it was completed, *Thomas de Rotherham*, Biſhop of *Lincoln*, afterwards Lord High Chancellor, and Archbiſhop of *York*, finiſhed it *Anno* 1475. It has a Rector, twelve Fellows, nine Scholars, twenty Exhibitioners, two Chaplains, &c.

It has two ſmall antient Quadrangles, not very regular. The Chapel is beautiful, and built by Archbiſhop *Williams*; the Windows are very curiouſly painted.

The Lord *Crew*, Biſhop of *Durham*, ordered to take place from *Michaelmas* 1717. the following Benefactions to this College; *viz.* 1. Twenty Pounds a Year to the Headſhip, and 10*l.* a Year to each of the twelve Fellowſhips for ever. 2. Ten Pounds *per Annum* for ever to the Curates of four Churches belonging to this College. 3. He made up the Bible-clerk's Office, and eight Scholarſhips, which were

before very mean, 10 *l. per Ann.* each for ever. And, 4. Settled, to commence from *Lady-day* 1718. 20 *l. per Ann.* each on twelve Exhibitioners for ever.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Lincoln.*

9. ALL-SOULS-COLLEGE.

Its Front faces the High-ſtreet. It was founded by *Henry Chichely*, Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, for offering up Prayers for all thoſe who fell in the Wars of *Henry* V. in *France.* It has a Warden, forty Fellows, two Chaplains, nine Scholars, three Clerks, ſix Choriſters, *&c.*

Before the new Buildings, it had two Courts, the larger a regular and ſtately Edifice. The Chapel was very auguſt and ſolemn: but the College now appears with a new Face.

Colonel *Chriſtopher Codrington*, Governor of the *Leeward Iſlands*, bequeathed to this College 10,000 *l.* 6000 *l.* of which he ordered to be laid out in building a Library, and the other 4000 *l.* in Books for it, and bequeathed his own Library to it beſides. This Library is 200 Feet long within the Walls, and 32 Feet and half broad; it has eleven large Windows to the South, and a Window of ſeventeen Feet wide at the Eaſt End, and one at the Weſt of the ſame Dimenſions. It is a fine *Gothic* Structure, built ſo in Conformity to the Chapel. Againſt the Entrance, in a Niche, is the Statue of the Benefactor, with a ſuitable Inſcription to his Honour; which he forbid to be mentioned on his Monument; on which is only cut the Word *Codrington.*

Beſides what will be mentioned by-and-by of the Benefactions of Dr. *George Clarke*, in the Abſtract we ſhall give of his Will, that Gentleman in his Lifetime adorned the Chapel of this College with a magnificent Marble Altar-piece, rich Furniture for the Communion-table of crimſon Velvet, trimmed with Gold-lace and Fringe, Books, Candleſticks, *&c.*

Henry

Henry Portman, Eſq; alſo placed at the Eaſt End a cloathed Reſurrection-piece, painted by Sir *James Thornhill*. And the Hon. *Doddington Greville*, Eſq; was at the Expence of painting finely the Cieling-piece. And there are other additional Ornaments, which render it worthy of the Attention of the Curious.

A very handſome Monument was erected *Anno* 1739. in the Chapel of this College, with an Inſcription upon it, in Honour of their worthy Benefactor Dr. *Clarke* aforementioned.

The Viſitor is the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*.

10. MAGDALEN-COLLEGE,

Situate without the Eaſt Gate of the Town, was founded *Anno* 1458. by *William Patten*, alias *Wainfleet*, Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, and Lord High Chancellor. It has a Preſident, forty Fellows, a Schoolmaſter, thirty Scholars called *Demies*, an Uſher, three public Readers, four Chaplains, eight Clerks, ſixteen Choriſters, an Organiſt, *&c.*

When the new Buildings to this College, which they are now carrying on, are finiſhed, and which will form a ſtately Quadrangle, it will be one of the fineſt in the Univerſity; and they have made a great Progreſs in them.

It had before two Quadrangles, the innermoſt of which is regular, and conſiſts of a Library and Lodgings, ſupported by a ſpacious Cloiſter. The Chapel, and the great Tower, as alſo the little one in the Weſt End of the inner Quadrangle, and the Hall, are very lofty and magnificent. They have an exceeding well-furniſhed Library, to which Colonel *Codrington* gave lately 10,000 *l.* and a good Collection of Books. Its *Water-walks*, as they are called, make this College highly delightful; they are an almoſt triangular Gravel-walk, fenced with Hedges and Trees on both Sides, ſurrounded on every Part with

a running Stream, and incloſing a large Meadow. Their Grove is alſo a fine ſpacious Extent of Ground, planted with ſtately Viſta's of Trees, one Part of which is laid out in an handſome Bowling-green.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Wincheſter*.

11. Brazen-nose-College

Is ſituate in the Middle of the Town, where ſtood an Hall of the ſame Name, and a monſtrous Noſe. It was founded by *William Smyth*, Biſhop of *Lincoln*, Counſellor to Prince *Arthur*; and by Sir *Richard Sutton*, Kt. It was begun in 1509. and finiſhed 1522. It has a Principal, twenty Fellows, thirty Scholars, four Exhibitioners, *&c.*

It conſiſts of two very handſome Quadrangles; in the leſſer of which are the Chapel and Library, and under them a wide and pleaſant Cloiſter, very compactly and elegantly built.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Lincoln*.

12. Corpus-Christi-College

Stands on the South-ſide of the Town. It was founded *Anno* 1516. by *Richard Fox*, Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, Lord Privy-Seal to the Kings *Henry* VII. and VIII. *Hugh Oldham*, Biſhop of *Exeter*, gave 6000 Marks towards the Building, beſides Lands towards endowing it. It has a Preſident, twenty Fellows, twenty Scholars, two Chaplains, and four Exhibitioners.

The Structure of the firſt Court is antient, but within-ſide very regular and handſome. The Library contains a noble Treaſure of Books. Their Hall was beautified a few Years ago, and their Gardens, tho' ſmall, are kept very neat. But the moſt ſplendid Part of this College is the ſtately Row of Lodgings erected a few Years ago by their late Preſident, Dr. *Thomas Turner*, who moreover gave them his numerous and valuable Collection of Books.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Wincheſter*.

13. Christ-

13. CHRIST-CHURCH.

This College takes up a vaſt Extent of Ground, and ſtands on the South-ſide of the City. It was begun to be founded *Anno* 1515. by Cardinal *Wolſey*; but on his Diſgrace coming into the King's Hands, and thence called *King's-College*, his Majeſty, that he might not ſeem to found any Part of his Fame on another's Bottom, called it *Chriſt-Church*, and made it an Epiſcopal See, *Anno* 1546. Afterward, *Anno* 1563. he joined to it *Canterbury-College*, now called *Canterbury-Quadrangle*, and *Peckwater-Inn*, now called *Peckwater-Court*. However, the Buildings lay very incomplete for almoſt an hundred Years after, when Dr. *Bryan Duppa*, and Dr. *Samuel Fell*, Deans of this Houſe, and afterwards Dr. *John Fell*, Biſhop of *Oxford*, Son of the latter, at different times, by the Help of many generous Benefactors, brought the Buildings to ſurpriſing Perfection.

This Foundation is numerous and magnificent, for a Dean, eight Canons, 101 Students (at the laſt Act 247), eight Chaplains, eight Singing-men, eight Choriſters, and a Teacher of Muſic for them, an Organiſt, a Schoolmaſter and Uſher, forty Grammar-ſcholars, a Virger, *&c.* There is alſo belonging to it an Hoſpital in St. *Alat*'s Pariſh, which has 24 Poor. In the ſtately Tower, in the Front of the Gate, hangs the great Bell, called *Tom*; which was removed thither out of the Steeple of the Cathedral, by Biſhop *Fell*. It is ſeven Feet and an Inch Diameter, and five Feet nine Inches high; and weighs near 17,000 Pounds Weight. This Bell is tolled every Night 101 Strokes, agreeable to the Number of Students in the College, to give Warning for ſhutting up the Gates in the Colleges and Halls in the Univerſity..

The Buildings of this College are very large, auguſt, and ſplendid. The great Quadrangle has a wide and handſome Terrace round it, and a Fountain in the

Middle. *Peckwater-Quadrangle* is finely rebuilt. *Canterbury* and the Chaplains Quadrangles are alſo convenient Edifices. The Cathedral is lofty, but no elegant Structure; the Hall and Library high and ſpacious; and the latter contains a noble Collection of Books, to which Dr. *Aldrich*, late Dean, made a fine Addition. It is impoſſible, in my narrow Limits, to do Juſtice to this double College, which is an Univerſity of itſelf. I ſhall only add, that Archbiſhop *Wake*, lately deceaſed, left to it his Library, and a large Cabinet of Medals, computed to be worth between 8 and 10,000 *l.* beſides other Bequeſts.

The Viſitor is the King.

14. Trinity-College

Stands in the North Suburbs of the Town, where once ſtood *Durham-College*, founded *Anno* 1350. by *Thomas Hatfield*, Biſhop of *Durham*. At the Diſſolution of Abbeys, it running the common Fate, Sir *Thomas Pope*, of *Hertfordſhire*, purchaſed it of thoſe who had got a Grant of it from King *Edward* VI. and obtained a Royal Licence to turn it into a College; which accordingly he did *Anno* 1550. by this Name. It has a Preſident, twelve Fellows, twelve Scholars, *&c.*

It has two Quadrangles. In the firſt are the Chapel, the Hall, and the Library. The Chapel was rebuilt *Anno* 1693. and the Work of it, both within and without, is wonderfully elegant. The Altar-piece is of Cedar inlaid: the Rails and Screen of Cedar, and all adorned with exquiſite Carving. The Roof is enriched with Fretwork, and an admirable Piece of Painting, repreſenting our Saviour's Aſcenſion. The Pavement, from the Screen to the Altar, is of black and white Marble. The Gardens on the Eaſt-ſide of the College are large, and well laid out, containing about three Acres of Ground: they are divided into three Parts: the firſt, which we enter from

from the grand Quadrangle, conſiſts of fine Gravel-walks and Graſs-plots, adorned with Ever-greens; and the Walls intirely covered with them, as thoſe in other College-gardens generally are. Adjoining to this, on the South, is another Garden, with ſhady Walks of *Dutch* Elms; and, beyond, a Wilderneſs, adorned with Fountains, cloſe Arbours, round Stone-tables, and other Embelliſhments. At the Entrance and End of the great Walk that goes through them, are very noble Iron Gates, which leave a Proſpect open to the whole Eaſt-ſide of the College.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Winchester*.

15. ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S-COLLEGE

Is ſituated in the North Suburbs. It was founded *Anno* 1555. by Sir *Thomas White*, Lord Mayor of *London*, in the Place where ſtood, before the Diſſolution, *St. Bernard's-College*, built by Archbiſhop *Chichley*. It has at preſent a Preſident, thirty-nine Fellows, and eleven Scholars, an Organiſt, and Singing-men, four Choriſters, *&c.*

It has two ſpacious and uniform Quadrangles. The inner Court was built by Archbiſhop *Laud*, and is very elegant. The Eaſt and Weſt-ſides of it are ſupported by noble Piazzas, in the Middle of which are two Portals finely fronted with Pillars and Carveing. In one of theſe Fronts ſtands a curious Brazen Statue of King *Charles* I. and in the other of his Queen. Their Chapel, which has an Organ and Choir in it, is very handſome. The Library takes up the Eaſt and South-ſides of the new Quadrangle, and is well ſtored with Books, Manuſcripts, and valuable Curioſities. The Hall is neat, and adorned with good Pictures.

The Gardens belonging to this College alſo are large, and well laid out: in the firſt, the Walks are planted with *Dutch* Elms, and the Walls covered with Ever-greens: the inward Garden has every-

thing almoſt that can render ſuch a Place agreeable; as a Terraſs, a Mount, Wilderneſs, and well-contrived Arbours; but, notwithſtanding this is much more admired by Strangers than the other, the outer Garden is become the general Rendezvous of Gentlemen and Ladies every *Sunday* Evening in Summer. Here we have an Opportunity of ſeeing the whole Univerſity together almoſt, as well as the better Sort of Townſmen, and Ladies, who ſeldom fail of making their Appearance here at the ſame time, unleſs the Weather prevents them.

Dr. *Sherard*, formerly Conſul at *Smyrna*, who died *Auguſt* 12. 1728. left his Library and Curioſities, which are very valuable, to this College, beſides another conſiderable Legacy.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Wincheſter*.

16. Jesus-College

Is ſituate in St. *Michael*'s Pariſh. It was begun, *Anno* 1571. by *Hugh Price*, Profeſſor of Common-law in this Univerſity, Prebendary of *Rocheſter*, &c. who deſigned it particularly for the Benefit of his Countrymen of *Wales*; but the Endowment that Gentleman made of it, ſinking into nothing, Queen *Elizabeth*, *Anno* 1589. gave another Charter at the Society's Requeſt; and having ſtyled herſelf their Foundreſs in the firſt, it is frequently attributed to her. It has met with ſo many generous Contributors, that it is in a flouriſhing State, and has a Principal, nineteen Fellows, eighteen Scholars, twenty-one Exhibitioners, *&c.*

It has two large handſome Quadrangles, the innermoſt very regular and uniform.

The Viſitor is the Earl of *Pembroke*.

17. Wadham-College

Stands in the North Skirts of the Town. Its Founders were *Nicolas Wadham*, of *Mereſield* in *Somerſetſhire*, Eſq; and *Dorothy* his Wife, Daughter of

of Sir *William Petre*, Knight, Privy-counſellor to Queen *Elizabeth*. He formed the Deſign, and died; and ſhe, in compliance with his Death-bed Requeſt, completed it. It was begun *Anno* 1609. and finiſhed 1613. It has a Warden, fifteen Fellows, fifteen Scholars, two Chaplains, two Clerks, *&c.*

This College has one large, regular, beautiful Quadrangle. The Chapel ſtands out behind the Quadrangle to the Eaſt, regularly anſwering to the Library; and its Windows are finely painted. They have a large Garden, handſomely laid out.

The Viſitor is the Biſhop of *Bath* and *Wells*.

18. PEMBROKE-COLLEGE

Is ſituate on the South-ſide of the Town. It was formerly an Hall, and called *Broadgate-hall*. It was made a College by the Munificence of *Thomas Teſdale*, Eſq; and *Richard Wightwicke*, B. D. with the Licence of King *James* I. *Anno* 1624. The Foundation of the firſt conſiſted of ſeven Fellows, and ſix Scholars; the other of three Fellows, and four Scholars. The preſent Members are a Maſter, thirteen Fellows, twenty-three Scholars, *&c.* It had its Name from the Earl of *Pembroke*, then Chancellor.

It has one handſome Quadrangle, the Front of which is a regular, neat Piece of Building. A pleaſant Garden alſo belongs to it.

The Viſitor is the Chancellor of the Univerſity.

19. WORCESTER-COLLEGE.

This College was lately called *Glouceſter-hall*: after the Diſſolution, Sir *Thomas White*, Lord Mayor of *London*, built it, for the Purpoſe of Education, and called it *St. John Baptiſt-hall*, tho' ſtill it retained the Name of *Glouceſter-hall*, till it acquired a collegiate Endowment by the noble Munificence of Sir *Thomas Cookſey*, of *Aſteley* in *Worceſterſhire*.

It had, before the late Dr. *George Clarke*'s Will in

its Favour, of which we ſhall give an Abſtract by-and-by, a Provoſt, ſix Fellows, ſix Scholars, &c.

The Buildings lately added, now carrying on, and the fine Legacies left to it by the ſaid Gentleman, will give this College, which had been in no very good Condition for ſome time, a very advantageous Figure in the Univerſity; and it already makes a very ſtately and ſplendid Appearance, and will be enabled to make a ſtill better; for on the 2d of *October* 1740. died at her Seat near *Glouceſter*, Mrs. *Eaton*, one of the three Coheireſſes of Dr. *Birom Eaton*, formerly Principal of this College, when *Glouceſter-hall*. This Lady has left a very great Eſtate, partly to her Relations, and partly to Acts of Munificence, ſuch as the Foundation of ſix Fellowſhips in *Worceſter-College*, for the Support of which, and the erecting a Pile of Building for them, an Eſtate of 700 *l. per Annum* is bequeathed. The Corpſe of this Lady was honoured by the Attendance of the Vice-chancellor, and all the Heads of Houſes in the Univerſity.

20. Hertford-College.

This is a College of a very late Erection; for it was but in *September* 1740. that his Majeſty's Royal Charter paſſed the Broad-ſeal, to erect *Hart-hall*, as it was before called, into a College; to conſiſt of a Principal, as before, four ſenior and eight junior Fellows: ſo that at laſt, the Reverend Dr. *Richard Newton*, the worthy Principal, after an Oppoſition of ſeveral Years, given by ſome who ought to have aſſiſted his generous View, has obtained a Point which lay very near his Heart; tho' not till ſeveral of his worthy Friends (who would have contributed largely to its Endowment, had it been effected in their Time) are demiſed, which muſt neceſſarily be a great Diſadvantage to the good Deſign.

This

This College, as it muſt now be called, ſtands in the Pariſh of *St. Peter*'s in the Eaſt. It is ſuppoſed to have had its Name of *Hart-hall* from the firſt Syllable of *Elias Hartford*'s Surname, who was once Owner of it. *Walter Stapledon* Biſhop of *Exeter*, having bought it, converted it, *Anno* 1314. into an academical Seminary, by the Name of *Stapledon-hall*, and endowed it with Maintenance for twelve Scholars, which he removed afterwards to *Exeter-College*, on building the ſame; and then this Hall reſumed its own Name. It has a Stipend or Exhibition belonging to it, of more than 16 *l. per Annum.*

It conſiſts of one Quadrangle, not very regular; and the preſent worthy Principal has made ſeveral, and had projected ſtil greater, Additions to it, which would have taken place long ago, but for the Reaſons above given.

Theſe are the twenty Colleges, of which at preſent this famous Univerſity conſiſts. There are beſides five Halls, which are Places unendowed, tho' not deſtitute of Exhibitions. The Students in theſe ſubſiſt at their own Charge, are under the Government of a Principal and Vice-principal, and pay the former for their Lodging, *&c.* The Principals are nominated by the Chancellor, except the Principal of *Edmund-hall.* Their Viſitor is the Chancellor.

I will give a brief Account of each of theſe: And,

1. ALBAN-HALL.

It is ſituate on the South-ſide of the Town, and had its Name from *Robert St. Alban*, once Proprietor of the Place. It became academical about the Year 1230. There was lately no more than one Member, beſides the Principal, in this Houſe.

The Front makes but a tolerable Appearance; but the Inſide falls ſhort even of that.

2. ED-

2. Edmund-Hall

Is ſituate in the Pariſh of *St. Peter*'s in the Eaſt; and has its Name probably from one *Edmund*, a Citizen of *Oxford*, Proprietor of the Place. *Anno* 1557. it was purchaſed by *Queen's-College*, and converted to its preſent Uſe, containing, beſides the Principal, about twenty Students.

It makes one Quadrangle; on the Eaſt-ſide of which ſtands a very neat Chapel and Library, built ſome Years ſince by the Reverend Mr. *Stephen Penton*, its Principal.

3. St. Mary-Hall,

Situate in the Pariſh of St. *Mary*, has its Name either from that Church, which, with this Hall, came to belong to *Oriel-College*, by a Grant of King *Edward* II. *Anno* 1325. or from *Oriel-College*, heretofore called *St. Mary-Hall.*

It conſiſts of one Quadrangle, not very regular. Dr. *John Hudſon*, Principal, built here handſome Lodgings at his own Expence. There are about thirty Students in it.

4. New-Inn-Hall

Is ſituate in the North-weſt Part of the Town. It was called *Trilleck-Hall*, from two Brothers, Proprietors of it, of that Name; one Biſhop of *Hereford*, and the other Biſhop of *Rocheſter*. Afterwards the Founder of *New-College* bought it, and gave it to that College, *Anno* 1392. and from that time it was called *New-Inn-Hall.* It had lately no more than one Student, beſides the Principal.

The Building is antient and irregular.

5. St. Mary-Magdalen-Hall,

Situate near *Magdalen-College*, was built by *William Wainfleet*, Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, *Anno* 1480. for a Grammar-ſchool. But it having Room for academical Students, near forty of which there are at preſent, and ſome Additions having been made to it,

it, it became an academical Society. It enjoys fifteen Exhibitions; five of 8 *l.* *per Annum*, and ten of 10 *l.*

The Front is the moſt conſiderable Part of it; but it has a pretty good Library.

What Additions have been made to ſome of the Colleges, by means of the Wills of Dr. *Ratcliffe* and Dr. *Clarke*, which I have juſt referred to, will, to avoid Repetition where I am ſo preſſed for Room, be beſt ſeen in Abſtracts of the ſaid Wills, which may ſerve as a Supplement to the foregoing Accounts of the Colleges. Dr. *Ratcliffe*'s is to the following Effect:

'He left an Eſtabliſhment of 600 *l.* *per Annum* 'for two young Phyſicians to travel, to be enjoyed 'by them for ten Years; after which, or in caſe of 'Death, others were to ſucceed them, for ever.

'The Remainder of the Eſtate charged to ſecure 'this annual Sum, he left to *Univerſity-College*, *Oxon.* 'for purchaſing perpetual Advowſons for the Mem-'bers of the ſame.

'To *St. Bartholomew's* Hoſpital, *London*, he left '500 *l.* *per Ann.* for ever, towards mending their 'Diet, as his Will expreſſes it; and 100 *l.* *per Ann.* 'more for ever, for buying of Linen.

'Five hundred Pounds, to build the Front of '*Univerſity-College* anſwerable to what was before 'built, and for building the Maſter's Lodgings there-'in, and Chambers for his two traveling Fellows.

'Forty thouſand Pounds for building a Library in '*Oxon*, and purchaſing the Houſes between *St.* '*Mary*'s and the Schools in *Cat-ſtreet*, for that Pur-'poſe; and when built, he bequeathed 150 *l.* *per* '*Annum* to the Library-keeper, and 100 *l.* a Year 'for ever to buy Books for the ſame.

'He charged all his real and perſonal Eſtate with 'the Payment of theſe great Benefactions, and other

'large

'large Family-bequeſts; and willed, that the Refi-
'due ſhould be applied to ſuch charitable Purpoſes as
'his Executors ſhould think beſt.

'He willed, that 100*l.* a Year for ever ſhould be
'applied to keep in Repair the ſaid Library, to com-
'mence Payment in 30 Years after his Death.

'All the Livings in his Gift he willed ſhould be
'beſtowed on Members of *Univerſity-College*, and,
'if wanting there, to Fellows of *Lincoln-College*.

'To his Executors, who were *William Bromley*,
'Eſq; Sir *George Beaumont*, Bart. *Thomas Sclater*,
'Eſq; and *Anthony Keck*, Eſq; all ſince deceaſed,
'he left 500*l.* each; and a Power of nominating
'two Succeſſors to each of them, as they reſpect-
'ively died.'

His Will bears Date *Sept.* the 13th, 1714. and the Doctor died *Nov.* 1. the ſame Year.

We ſhall now add, That every thing being done in purſuance of this Will, which the Time ſince his Death would permit, it may be eaſily conceived what a glorious Addition the Buildings finiſhed, and finiſhing, by its Direction, muſt be to this renowned Univerſity.

George Clarke, LL. D. was ſeveral Years Repreſentative in Parliament for the Univerſity of *Oxford*, and died *October* 12. 1736. Of whoſe Will take the following Abſtract:

'He bequeathed to the Library-keeper of *Wor-
'ceſter-College*, 10*l. per Annum*, and to a young
'Gownſman, to attend to reach down Books, 5*l.*

'Four thouſand Pounds for building nine Cham-
'bers at *Worceſter-College*, and finiſhing the Chapel
'and Hall there; ſix of theſe Chambers to be for ſix
'additional Fellows of that College, who are to have

'45*l.*

'45 *l.* each *per Annum*, the other three to be for ſo 'many additional Scholars, at 25 *l. per Ann.* each.

'Fifty Pounds *per Ann.* to be laid out in Books for 'the ſaid College Library.

'He orders his Truſtees, as ſoon as they can, to 'purchaſe the Ground adjoining to *Worceſter-College*, 'for inlarging its Site and Conveniencies.

'To the Univerſity he gives the Whole-length 'Pictures of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, to be 'hung in the Gallery over the Schools; the Half-'lengths of Lord Chancellor *Clarendon*, and his Son 'the Earl of *Rocheſter*, to be hung in the Delegates 'Room at the *Clarendon Printing-houſe*; and an 'Original, the only one, of Dr. *John Ratcliffe*, to 'be hung in his Library, when built.

'Alſo he bequeaths to the Univerſity all his Me-'dals, and ſeveral other valuable Curioſities, which 'he wills may be kept in the *Muſeum Aſhmoleanum*.

'To the *Worceſter-College* Library, all his printed 'Books, and Prints, and ſuch Manuſcripts as his 'Truſtees ſhall think fit: alſo to the ſame, all the 'Deſigns of *Inigo Jones* for *Whitehall*, which he takes 'notice are very valuable.

'To the ſame College he gives a large two-ear'd 'Silver Cup, double-gilt, weighing 112 Ounces.

'To the Warden and College of *All Souls*, where-'of he was Fellow, all the Furniture in his College-'chamber, and all That in the Lodgings he had built 'there, with his Prints therein, and Pictures over 'the Doors and Chimney-pieces, the Cieling-piece 'over the Stair-caſe, *Hercules* in the Garden, and 'St. *Luke*, in two Columns, to be uſed in the Place 'they now are by the ſaid Warden, and his Suc-'ceſſors.

'To the Uſe of the Fellows of the ſaid College, 'the Rooms under the great Dining-room, the great

'Dining-

'Dining-room itſelf, and the great Bedchamber,
'and Garrets over them.

'To *All-Souls-College* he bequeaths alſo his fourth
'Turn of preſenting to the Vicarage of *Yarnton*, for
'the Benefit of ſuch of its Chaplains as have but a
'ſlender Proviſion; and 20 *l.* among the College-
'ſervants.

'An Augmentation, as it ſhall riſe out of one of
'his Eſtates, to the Allowance of the Two Cha-
'plains of *All-Souls*, whom he hopes the Society will
'appoint their Librarians.

'To *Queen's-College* he gives the Heads of ſix
'Queens of *England*.'

You will refer, Sir, to the Accounts I have already given of the Colleges, and to the above Abſtracts of Dr. *Ratcliffe*'s and Dr. *Clarke*'s Wills, and you will have a View of the State of theſe Colleges, even when the Works are finiſhed as directed by thoſe Gentlemen, and which will hold for Years to come without material Alteration, except in caſe of new Benefactions.

I ſhall now give a Summary of what a Traveler may obſerve further in *Oxford*, *en paſſant*; and refer the curious Inquirer to the Hiſtories of the Place, for a more ample and particular Account than I have Room to give.

Beſides theſe Colleges and Halls, there are ſome public Buildings, which make a moſt glorious Appearance. The firſt and greateſt of all is the *Theatre*, a Building not to be equaled by any thing of its Kind and Bigneſs in the World. Sir *Chriſtopher Wren* was the Director of the Work. Archbiſhop *Sheldon* paid for it, and gave it to the Univerſity: there is a world of Decoration in the Front of it, and more beautiful Additions, by way of Ornament; and the inſide Roof,

Roof, finely painted and decorated, is never enough to be admired.

The *Bodleian* Library is an Ornament in itſelf worthy of this famous Univerſity. I have not Room for its Hiſtory at large, but ſhall briefly obſerve, that the firſt public Library in *Oxford* was erected in *Durham-College*, now *Trinity*, by *Richard* Biſhop of *Durham*, Lord Treaſurer to *Edward* III. it was afterward joined to another, founded by *Cobham* Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, and both inlarged by the Bounty of *Humphry* Duke of *Glouceſter*, Founder of the Divinity-ſchools. But theſe Libraries being loſt, and the Books embeziled, and the Place where they were depoſited quite ruinous, Sir *Thomas Bodley*, a wealthy and learned Knight, having, at a vaſt Expence, collected Books and Manuſcripts from all Parts of the World, placed them in the old Library-room, built by the good Duke *Humphry*.

This great Work was brought to an Head the 8th of *Nov.* 1602. and has continued increaſing, by the Benefactions of great and learned Men, to this Day; ſuch as Archbiſhop *Laud*, the Earl of *Pembroke*, *Oliver Cromwell*, *Selden*, *Digby*, and other great Names.

Over it is a ſpacious Gallery, adorned with Pictures of Founders, Benefactors, *&c.* and with the antique Marbles, which were the learned Part of the inexhauſtible Collection of the Earl of *Arundel*, which have been illuſtrated with the accurate Comments of *Selden* and *Prideaux*. Here are ſome of the moſt valuable *Greek* Monuments now in the World. Over the Porch, upon an handſome Pedeſtal of black Marble, ſtands the Braſs Effigies of the Earl of *Pembroke*, their noble and generous Chancellor, given by the late Earl, moulded by *Rubens*; alſo a very large Collection of *Greek*, *Roman*, *Britiſh*, *Saxon*, *Engliſh*, and other Coins, preſented by Sir *T. Roe*, and other Hands. And that indefatigable and learned Collector

of

of Books, and valuable Manuſcripts, Dr. *Tanner*, Biſhop of *St. Aſaph*, who died *December* 12. 1735. bequeathed the moſt curious Part of his fine Collection to this noble Library.

In the Year 1740. by the Death of Mrs. *Crew*, Relict of *George Crew*, Eſq; an Eſtate of 80 *l. per Annum* is fallen to the Head Librarian's Poſt, which before was very inconſiderable, tho' it required a conſtant Reſidence. This was a Legacy of the late Right Reverend and Right Honourable *Nathanael* Lord *Crew*, Biſhop of *Durham*, who was ſuch a good Benefactor to *Lincoln-College*, as I have mentioned.

Other curious things in *Oxford* are, the Schools (which are now beautifully repaired, and the Names and Arms of old Benefactors renewed and repainted), the Muſeum, the Chamber of Rarities, the Collection of Coins, Medals, Pictures, and antient Inſcriptions, the Printing-houſe, the Phyſic-garden, the Univerſity and other Churches, the Convocation-houſe, *&c.* all worthy of a particular Deſcription, had I Room to give it.

The Univerſity is governed by a Chancellor, choſen by Scrutiny or Collection of Votes; he is generally one of the firſt Noblemen of the Kingdom.

By an High Steward, choſen by the Chancellor.

By a Vice-chancellor, who muſt be one of the Heads of a College, recommended to the Univerſity by the Chancellor.

By two Proctors, choſen annually, by turn, out of the Colleges.

The other Officers are the public Orator, and the Keeper of the Archives, Beadles, Virger, *&c.*

But tho' I have ſaid ſo much of the Univerſity, I muſt not quite forget the City. Let me then obſerve, That before *Baliol-College* they ſhew the Stone in the Street, which marks the Place of the Martyrdom of Archbiſhop *Cranmer* and Biſhop *Ridley*, then upon the

the Banks of the Ditch, without the City Walls, which went along where the Theatre now ſtands.

Beyond the River, ſtood *Oſney-Abbey*, founded 1129. Upon the Bridge is a Tower, called *Frier* Bacon's *Study*, from that famous and learned Monk.

Over another Bridge, on the *Iſis*, we went to ſee *Ruleigh-Abbey*, where ſome Ruins ſtill remain, turn'd to a common Brewhouſe.

Of the Caſtle remains a ſquare high Tower, by the River-ſide, and a lofty Mount, or Keep, walled at Top, with a Stair-caſe going downward.

The *White-friers* was a Royal Palace, and near a Green called *Beaumonds*, they ſhewed us the Bottom of a Tower upon the Spot where the valiant *Richard* the Firſt was born.

Without the Town on all Hands are to be ſeen the Fortifications erected in the late Civil Wars.

As to the City, tho' the Colleges make up two Thirds of it, and are ſtill elbowing for more Room, yet 'tis large and regular; the Streets are ſpacious, clean, and ſtrait; the Place pleaſant and healthful; the Inhabitants genteel and courteous; the Churches many and elegant, eſpecially *Allhallows*; and, taking it all together, and including the Grandeur and Endowment of the Colleges, their Chapels, Halls, Libraries, Quadrangles, Piazza's, Gardens, Walks, Groves, *&c.* it muſt be conſidered as the firſt Univerſity in the World, as I have before mentioned.

On the Left-hand, on the other Side the River, the laſt Remains of *Godſtow* Nunnery are ſituated among the ſweet Meadows. Here fair *Roſamond* had a remarkably fine Tomb; but before the Diſſolution ſcarce could her Aſhes reſt, *whoſe Beauty was thought guilty*, as one ſays, *even after Death.*

I cannot leave *Oxford* without making one Obſervation, with regard to thoſe who inſiſt, that it was to the Piety of the Popiſh Times that we owe the

the firſt Inſtitution of the Univerſity itſelf, the Foundation and Endowment of the particular Colleges, and the Encouragement ariſing to Learning from thence: all which I readily grant; but would have them remember too, that though thoſe Foundations ſtood, as they tell us, 800 Years, and that the Reformation, as they ſay, is not above 200 Years ſtanding, yet Learning has more increaſed, and the Univerſities flouriſhed more, more great Scholars been produced, greater Libraries been raiſed, and more fine Buildings been erected, in theſe 200 Years, than in the 800 Years of Popery; and I might add, as many great Benefactions have been given, notwithſtanding this very momentous Difference, that the Proteſtants Gifts are merely Acts of Charity to the World, and Acts of Bounty, in reverence to Learning, and learned Men, without the grand Incitement of the State of their own Souls, and thoſe of their Fathers, which were to be prayed out of Purgatory, and get a ready Admiſſion into Heaven.

Oxford was made an Epiſcopal See in 1541. when *Robert King*, the laſt Abbat of *Oſney*, was elected Biſhop. Here are two Charity-ſchools, one erected by the Univerſity for 54 Boys, the other by the City for 50 Boys and Girls. The City and Univerſity ſend each two Members to Parliament.

This Place was for many Years advantaged by the Neighbourhood of the Royal Court, while ſeveral Kings of *England*, being taken with the fine Situation of *Woodſtock*, made their Palace there the Place of their Summer Retreat.

Dr. *Plott* allows it to have been a Royal Houſe ever ſince King *Alfred*; and a Manuſcript in the *Cotton* Library confirms it; and that King *Henry* I. was not the Founder of it, but only rebuilt it. And as for *Henry* II. who kept his Fair *Roſamond* in it, he made only ſome Additions to it, for the Entertainment

ment and Security of his beautiful Miſtreſs. Notwithſtanding which, the Queen, having got Acceſs to her in the King's Abſence, as Tradition informs us, diſpatch'd her by Poiſon.

When I was firſt at *Woodſtock*, ſome Years ago, I ſaw Part of the old Palace, and the famous Labyrinth of Fair *Roſamond*; but now theſe are deſtroyed. Her Bathing-place, or *Well*, as it is called, is left; a quadrangular Receptacle of pure Water, immediately flowing from a little Spring under the Hill, overſhadowed with Trees; near which are ſome Ruins of Walls and Arches. King *Ethelred* called a Parliament here. It has been a Royal Seat, as I have ſaid, from moſt antient Times. *Henry* I. incloſed the Park. Acroſs this Valley was a remarkably fine Echo, that would repeat a whole Hexameter, but impaired by the Removal of theſe Buildings. A ſtately Bridge, or Rialto rather, now leads along the grand Approach to the preſent Caſtle: one Arch is above 190 Feet Diameter; a Caſcade of Water falls from a Lake down ſome Stone Steps into the Canal that runs under it.

The new Palace of *Blenheim* is a vaſt and magnificent Pile of Building: a Royal Gift to the high Merit of the invincible Duke of *Marlborough*.

The Roof is adorned with a Stone Baluſtrade, and a good Number of Statues; but there are ſeveral Towers, or, as ſome call them, *Cupola's* (tho' they reſemble neither), which have a very heavy Aſpect: theſe are far from being an Ornament, and ſeem ſuch an uſeleſs Weight, that one would think they were intended to ſink the Fabric beneath the Surface of the Earth: which occaſioned the following Epitaph on the deceaſed Architect *Vanbrugh*:

Lie heavy on him, Earth! for he
Laid many a heavy Load on thee.

The

The lofty Hall is painted by Sir *James Thornhill*, the Cieling by *La Guerre*. The Rooms are finely enriched with Marble Chimney-pieces and Furniture, but more by the incomparable Paintings and Hangings; which latter repreſent the principal Glories of the Duke's Life. Among the Pictures are many of *Rubens*'s beſt and largeſt Pieces; that celebrated one of himſelf, his Wife and Child, among others: *Vandyke*'s King *Charles* I. upon a dun Horſe, of great Value; and the famous Loves of the Gods, by *Titian*, a Preſent from the King of *Sardinia*. The Gallery is worthy Admiration, lined with Marble Pilaſters, and whole Pillars of one Piece, ſupporting a moſt coſtly and curious Entablature, excellent for Matter and Workmanſhip, the Window-frames of the ſame, and a Baſement of black Marble quite round. Before it, is ſtretched out a moſt agreeable Proſpect of the fine Woods beyond the great Valleys. What is of the moſt elegant Taſte in the whole Houſe, is of the Ducheſs's own deſigning. The Chapel is equal to the reſt. The Garden is a very large Plot of Ground, taken out of the Park, and may ſtill be ſaid to be a Part of it, well-contrived, by ſinking the outer Wall into a Foſs, to give a View quite round, and take off the odious Appearance of Confinement and Limitation to the Eye. It is within well adorned with Walks, Greens, Eſpaliers, and Viſta's, to divers remarkable Objects, that offer themſelves in the circumjacent Country. Over the Pediment of this Front of the Houſe is a curious Marble Buſto of *Lewis* XIV. bigger than the Life, taken from the Gate of the Citadel of *Tournay*. The Orangery is a pretty Room. Near the Gate of the Palace is the Houſe where our famous *Chaucer* was born. At the Entrance into the Caſtle from the Town, her Grace has erected a noble triumphal Arch, to the Memory of the Duke; and has ſet up a vaſt Obeliſk in the

principal

principal Avenue of the Park, whereon is inſcribed the beſt Account of the Duke's Actions and Character, that ever was penned in the ſame Compaſs; and indeed is ſuppoſed to be written by the greateſt Genius of his Time, the late Lord Viſcount *B.*

The Inſcription does ſo much Honour to the Memory of the Duke, and at the ſame time to the *Britiſh* Nation, that I cannot deny to myſelf the Pleaſure of inſerting it here, as follows:

The Caſtle of *Blenheim* was founded by Queen ANNE,
In the fourth Year of her Reign,
In the Year of the Chriſtian Æra 1705.
A Monument deſigned to perpetuate the Memory of the
Signal Victory
Obtained over the *French* and *Bavarians*,
Near the Village of *Blenheim*,
On the Banks of the *Danube*,
By JOHN Duke of MARLBOROUGH;
The Hero not only of this Nation, but of this Age;
Whoſe Glory was equal in the Council and in the Field;
Who by Wiſdom, Juſtice, Candour, and Addreſs,
Reconciled various, and even oppoſite, Intereſts;
Acquired an Influence
Which no Rank, no Authority, can give,
Nor any Force but that of ſuperior Virtue;
Became the fixed important Centre,
Which united, in one common Cauſe,
The principal States of *Europe*;
Who by military Knowlege, and irreſiſtible Valour,
In a long Series of uninterrupted Triumphs,
Broke the Power of *France*,
When raiſed the higheſt, when exerted the moſt;
Reſcued the Empire from Deſolation;
Aſſerted and confirmed the Liberties of *Eurepe*.

Philip, a Grandſon of the Houſe of *France*, united to

the Intereſts, directed by the Policy, ſupported by the Arms of that Crown, was placed on the Throne of *Spain*. King WILLIAM III. beheld this formidable Union, of two great, and once rival Monarchies. At the End of a Life ſpent in defending the Liberties of *Europe*, he ſaw them in their greateſt Danger. He provided for their Security in the moſt effectual Manner. He took the Duke of MARLBOROUGH into his Service.

Embaſſador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
To the *States General* of the *United Provinces*,

The Duke contracted ſeveral Alliances before the Death of King WILLIAM. He confirmed and improved theſe. He contracted others, after the Acceſſion of Queen ANNE; and reunited the Confederacy, which had been diſſolved at the End of a former War, in a ſtricter and firmer League.

Captain-General and Commander in Chief
Of the Forces of GREAT BRITAIN,

The Duke led to the Field the Army of the Allies. He took with ſurpriſing Rapidity *Venlo*, *Ruremonde*, *Stevenſwaert*, and *Liege*. He extended and ſecured the Frontiers of the *Dutch*. The Enemies, whom he found inſulting at the Gates of *Nimeghen*, were driven to ſeek for Shelter behind their Lines. He forced *Bonne*, *Huy*, *Limburgh*, in another Campaign. He opened the Communication of the *Rhine*, as well as the *Maes*. He added all the Country between theſe Rivers to his former Conqueſts. The Army of *France*, favoured by the Defection of the Elector of *Bavaria*, had penetrated into the Heart of the *Empire*. This mighty Body lay expoſed to immediate Ruin. In that me-

morable Criſis, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH led his Troops with unexampled Celerity, Secrecy, Order, from the *Ocean* to the *Danube*. He ſaw: He attacked: Nor ſtopped, but to conquer the Enemy. He forced the *Bavarians*, ſuſtained by the *French*, in their ſtrong Intrenchments at *Schellenberg*. He paſſed the *Danube*. A ſecond Royal Army, compoſed of the beſt Troops of *France*, was ſent to reinforce the firſt. That of the Confederates was divided. With one Part of it the Siege of *Ingolſtadt* was carried on. With the other the Duke gave Battle to the united Strength of *France* and *Bavaria*. On the 2d Day of *Auguſt* 1704. he gained a more glorious Victory than the Hiſtories of any Age can boaſt. The Heaps of Slain were dreadful Proofs of his Valour. A Marſhal of *France*, whole Legions of *French*, his Priſoners, proclaimed his Mercy. *Bavaria* was ſubdued, *Ratiſbon*, *Augſbourg*, *Ulm*, *Memminghen*, all the Uſurpations of the Enemy, were recovered. The Liberty of the *Diet*, the Peace of the *Empire*, were reſtored. From the *Danube*, the Duke turned his victorious Arms towards the *Rhine*, and the *Moſelle*. *Landau*, *Treves*, *Traerbach*, were taken. In the Courſe of one Campaign, the very Nature of the War was changed. The Invaders of other States were reduced to defend their own. The Frontier of *France* was expoſed in its weakeſt Part to the Efforts of the Allies.

That he might improve this Advantage, that he might puſh the Sum of Things to a ſpeedy Deciſion, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH led his Troops early in the following Year once more to the *Moſelle*. They, whom he had ſaved a few Months before, neglected to ſecond him now. They, who might have been his Companions in Conqueſt, refuſed to join him. When he ſaw the generous Deſigns he

had formed, fruſtrated by private Intereſt, by Pique, by Jealouſy, he returned with Speed to the *Maes*. He returned; and Fortune and Victory returned with him. *Liege* was relieved; *Huy* retaken. The *French*, who had preſſed the Army of the *States-General* with ſuperior Numbers, retired behind Intrenchments, which they deemed impregnable. The Duke forced theſe Intrenchments, with inconſiderable Loſs, on the 7th Day of *July* 1705. He defeated a great Part of the Army which defended them. The reſt eſcaped by a precipitate Retreat. If Advantages proportionable to this Succeſs were not immediately obtained, let the Failure be aſcribed to that Misfortune which attends moſt Confederacies; a Diviſion of Opinions, where one alone ſhould judge; a Diviſion of Power, where one alone ſhould command. The Diſappointment itſelf did Honour to the Duke. It became the Wonder of Mankind how he could do ſo much under thoſe Reſtraints, which had hindred him from doing more.

Powers more abſolute were given him afterwards. The Increaſe of his Powers multiplied his Victories. At the Opening of the next Campaign, when all his Army was not yet aſſembled; when it was hardly known, that he had taken the Field; the Noiſe of his Triumphs was heard over *Europe*. On the 12th of *May* 1706. he attacked the *French* at *Ramillies*. In the Space of Two Hours the whole Army was put to Flight. The Vigour and Conduct, with which he improved this Succeſs, were equal to thoſe wherewith he gained it. *Louvain*, *Bruſſels*, *Malines*, *Liere*, *Ghent*, *Oudenard*, *Antwerp*, *Damme*, *Bruges*, *Courtray*, ſurrendered. *Oſtend*, *Menin*, *Dendermond*, and *Aeth*, were taken. *Brabant* and *Flanders* were recovered. Places which had reſiſted the greateſt Generals for Months,

for

for Years; Provinces diſputed for Ages; were the Conqueſts of a Summer. Nor was the Duke content to triumph alone. Solicitous for the general Intereſt, his Care extended to the remoteſt Scenes of the War. He choſe to leſſen his own Army, that he might enable the Leaders of other Armies to conquer. To this it muſt be aſcribed that *Turin* was relieved; the Duke of *Savoy* reinſtated; the *French* driven with Confuſion out of *Itrly*.

Theſe Victories gave the Confederates an Opportunity of carrying on the War on every Side into the Dominions of *France*. But ſhe continued to enjoy a kind of peaceful Neutrality in *Germany*. From *Italy* ſhe was once alarmed, and had no more to fear. The intire Reduction of his Power, whoſe Ambition had cauſed, whoſe Strength ſupported the War, ſeemed reſerved for him alone, who had ſo triumphantly begun the glorious Work.

The Barrier of *France*, on the Side of the *Low-Countries*, had been forming for more than half a Century. What Art, Power, Expence could do, had been done to render it impenetrable. Yet here ſhe was moſt expoſed; for here the Duke of MARLBOROUGH threatened to attack her.

To cover what they had gained by Surprize, or had been yielded to them by Treachery, the *French* marched to the Banks of the *Schelde*. At their Head were the Princes of the Blood, and their moſt fortunate General the Duke of *Vendoſme*. Thus commanded, thus poſted, they hoped to check the Victor in his Courſe. Vain were their Hopes. The Duke of MARLBOROUGH paſſed the River in their Sight. He defeated their whole Army. The Approach of Night concealed, the Proximity of *Ghent* favoured, their Flight. They neglected nothing to repair their Loſs, to defend their Frontier. New Generals, new Armies, ap-

peared in the *Netherlands*. All contributed to inhance the Glory, none were able to retard the Progreſs, of the confederate Army.

Liſle, the Bulwark of this Barrier, was beſieged. A numerous Gariſon, and a Marſhal of *France*, defended the Place. Prince EUGENE of *Savoy* commanded, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH covered and ſuſtained the Siege. The Rivers were ſeized, and the Communication with *Holland* interrupted. The Duke opened new Communications with great Labour, and much greater Art. Through Countries over-run by the Enemy, the neceſſary Convoys arrived in Safety. One alone was attacked. The Troops which attacked it were beat. The Defence of *Liſle* was animated by Aſſurances of Relief.

The *French* aſſembled all their Force. They marched towards the Town. The Duke of MARLBOROUGH offered them Brttle, without ſuſpending the Siege. They abandoned the Enterprize. They came to ſave the Town. They were Spectators of its Fall.

From this Conqueſt the Duke haſtened to others. The Poſts taken by the Enemy on the *Schelde* were ſurpriſed. That River was paſſed the ſecond time, and, notwithſtanding the great Preparations made to prevent it, without Oppoſition.

Bruſſels, beſieged by the Elector of *Bavaria*, was relieved. *Ghent* ſurrendered to the Duke in the Middle of a Winter remarkably ſevere. An Army, little inferior to his own, marched out of the Place.

As ſoon as the Seaſon of the Year permitted him to open another Campaign, the Duke beſieged and took *Tournay*. He inveſted *Mons*. Near this City, the *French* Army, covered by thick Woods, defended by noble Intrenchments, waited to moleſt, nor

nor preſumed to offer Battle. Even this was not attempted by them with Impunity. On the laſt Day of *Auguſt* 1709. the Duke attacked them in their Camp. All was employed; nothing availed againſt the Reſolution of ſuch a General, againſt the Fury of ſuch Troops. The Battle was bloody. The Event deciſive. The Woods were pierced: The Fortifications trampled down. The Enemy fled. The Town was taken. *Doway*, *Bethune*, *Aire*, *St. Venant*, *Bouchain*, underwent the ſame Fate in two ſucceeding Years. Their vigorous Reſiſtance could not ſave them. The Army of *France* durſt not attempt to relieve them. It ſeemed preſerved to defend the Capital of the Monarchy. The Proſpect of this extreme Diſtreſs was neither diſtant nor dubious. The *French* acknowleged their Conqueror, and ſued for Peace.

These are the Actions of the late Duke of MARLBOROUGH,
Performed in the Compaſs of a few Years,
Sufficient to adorn the Annals of Ages.
The Admiration of other Nations
Will be conveyed to lateſt Poſterity,
In the Hiſtories even of the Enemies of BRITAIN.
The Senſe which the *Britiſh* Nation had
Of his tranſcendent Merit,
Was expreſſed
In the moſt ſolemn, moſt effectual, moſt durable Manner,
The Acts of Parliament * inſcribed on this Pillar
Shall ſtand
As long as the *Britiſh* Name and Language laſt,
Illuſtrious Monuments
Of MARLBOROUGH's Glory,
And
Of BRITAIN's Gratitude.

* Several Recitals of Clauſes in Acts of Parliament, made to do Honour to this immortal Commander, are engraven on the ſame ſuperb Pillar.

At *Woodſtock* they make the fine Steel Chains for Watches, and other things of poliſhed Steel; and ſend two Members to Parliament.

From *Woodſtock* I went North-weſt to *Chipping-Norton*, which muſt have been once a Town of great Trade, by the Number of Merchants, as they are called on the Braſſes over their Monuments; and, beſides, the Name *Chipping* denotes as much. There are Marks of a Caſtle by the Church; and *Roman* Coins are frequently found here. The Church is a good Building, and after a curious Model.

Hence we rode to ſee *Rowldrich* Stones, a little *Stone-henge*, being a Circle of great Stones ſtanding upright, ſome of them from five to ſeven Feet high, and probably the *Veſtigia* of an old *Britiſh* Temple, as that was; and Mr. *Toland* poſitively aſſerts, that they were ſo.

At *Tidmerton* Pariſh is a large Camp of an orbicular Form, on the Summit of an Hill, which is doubly intrenched, and able to contain a great Army.

When I was at *Banbury*, I ſhould have mentioned *Bloxham*, which lies North of it; where is a fine Church, the Steeple of an odd but agreeable Make.

Near *Bloxham* is alſo the famous Pariſh of *Brightwell*, of which it was obſerved, that there had not been an Alehouſe, nor a Diſſenter from the Church, nor any Quarrel among the Inhabitants that roſe ſo high as to a Suit of Law, within the Memory of Man.

But they could not ſay it was ſo ſtill, eſpecially as to the Alehouſe Part; tho' very much is ſtill preſerved as to the Unity and good Neighbourhood of the Pariſhioners, and their Conformity to the Church.

Being now on the Side of *Warwickſhire*, as is ſaid before, I ſtill went South; and, paſſing by the *Four Shire Stones*, we ſaw where the Counties of *Oxford*, *Warwick*, and *Glouceſter*, join all in a Point; one Stone ſtanding in each County, and the fourth touching all three.

Entering

Entering *Glouceſterſhire* here, Weſtward, we came, after a Mile's Ride, to *Moretonhenmarſh*, a ſmall Town which had formerly a Market, but now diſcontinued: it lies on the great Road to *Worceſter*. And the famous *Roman* Foſſeway, which coming out of *Warwickſhire*, enters this County at *Lemington*, which lies North-eaſt of this Town, ſtrikes thro' it, it, and alſo through *Stow* and *North-Lech*, down to *Cirenceſter*, Southward.

Hence we come to the famous *Cotſwold-downs*, ſo eminent for the beſt of Sheep, and fineſt Wool in *England*: Fame tells us, that ſome of theſe Sheep were ſent by King *Richard* I. into *Spain*; and that from hence the Breed of their Sheep was raiſed, which now produce ſo fine a Wool, that we are obliged to fetch it from thence at a great Price, for making our fineſt Broad-cloaths.

Upon theſe Downs, we had a clear View of the afore-mentioned famous *Foſſe*, which evidently croſſes all the middle Part of *England*, and is to be ſeen and known (though in no Place plainer than here) quite from the *Bath* to *Warwick*, and thence to *Leiceſter*, to *Newark*, to *Lincoln*, and on to *Barton*, upon the Bank of *Humber*.

We obſerved alſo how ſeveral croſs Roads, as antient as the *Foſſe*, joined it, or branched out of it; ſome of which the People have by antient Uſage, tho' corruptly, called alſo *Foſſes*: For Example,

The *Ackman-ſtreet*, which is an antient *Saxon* Road, leading from *Buckinghamſhire* through *Oxfordſhire*, to the *Foſſe*, and ſo to the *Bath*; this joins the *Foſſe* between *Burford* and *Cirenceſter*. Alſo *Grimesdyke*, from *Oxfordſhire*, *Wattle-bank*, or *Aves-ditch*, from the ſame, and the *Would-way*, called alſo the *Foſſe*, croſſing from *Glouceſter* to *Cirenceſter*.

Many Seats of the Nobility are to be found in theſe Parts; *Cornbury*, Lord *Clarendon*'s; *Ditchley*, Lord

Litchfield's; *Hathorp*, the late Duke of *Shrewſbury*'s, new-built of Stone very beautifully.

The *Lech*, the *Coln*, the *Churn*, and the *Iſis*, all riſe in the *Cotſwould* Hills, and joining together, make a full Stream at *Lechlade* near this Place, and become one River there, and are called the *Thames*, which begins there to be navigable; and Barges may be ſeen at the Quay, taking in Goods for *London*: which makes *Lechlade* very populous. Of which Town more by-and-by.

Stow on the Would, which is the next Town we came to, is but indifferent to look at; but is, or rather has been, remarkable for its two annual Fairs, famous for Hops, Cheeſe, and Sheep, of which, 'tis ſaid, that above 20,000 are generally ſold at one Fair; and that the Toll of theſe Fairs, and the Markets, amount to 80 *l.* a Year. The Pariſh is very large, being 12 Miles in Compaſs, and conſiſts of Meadow, Arable, and Paſture. Here is a good large Rectory-Church ſtanding on an Hill, with an high Tower on the South-ſide of it, which is ſeen a great Diſtance off. Here are alſo an Hoſpital, Almshouſe, and Free-ſchool, all well endow'd; beſides other Charities,

North-Lech is alſo a Market-town, governed by a Bailiff and Two Conſtables, and is named from the River *Lech*, which runs thro' it. Here is a Vicarage-Church, large and ſpacious, having Iſles on each Side, and handſome Windows, with a large Tower. Here is a Grammar-ſchool, free for all the Boys of the Town, endowed with 80 *l.* a Year. And 'tis ſaid, that the Founder, falling afterwards into Misfortunes, ſolicited for the Maſter's Place of his own School, but could not obtain it from the Truſtees.

Here we quitted the *Roman Foſſe*, and went Eaſtward to *Burford* in *Oxfordſhire*. King *Henry* II. gave

gave this Town a Charter, *Guildam et omnes conſuetudines, quas habent liberi burgenſes de Oxenford*; but they are almoſt all now loſt: however, it retains ſome Marks of a Corporation ſtill, being governed by two Bailiffs, and other inferior Officers. It is famous for Saddles, and, lying near the Downs, draws great Profit from the Horſe-races, which are frequent here. At this Place was convened a Synod in 685. againſt the Error of the *Britiſh* Churches in the Obſervance of *Eaſter*.

At *Battle-edge*, near this Town, *Cuthred*, King of the *Weſt Saxons*, beat *Ethelbald*, King of the *Mercians*, in a pitched Battle, and threw off his Yoke. The Inhabitants celebrate yearly, on *Midſummer-eve*, a kind of Feſtival, which, they ſay, commenced in Honour of this Battle. It was here the learned Dr. *Heylin* (deſcended originally from an antient Family in *Wales*) was born; and the famous Speaker *Lenthal* had a Seat, and died here.

Being ſo near *Witney*, we could not forbear taking a Ride to ſee a Town ſo famous for the Manufactures of Blanketing and Rugs, which thrive here in a moſt extraordinary Manner. Here are at work 150 Looms continually, for which above 3000 People, from eight Years old and upward, are daily employed in Carding, Spinning, &c. and conſume above 100 Packs of Wool weekly. The Blankets are uſually 10 or 12 Quarters wide, and very white, which ſome attribute to the abſterſive nitrous Waters of the River *Windruſh*, wherewith they are ſcoured; but others believe it is owing to a peculiar way of looſe Spinning they uſe here; and others again are of Opinion, that it prceeeds from both. But, however that be, this Town has ingroſſed the whole Trade in that Commodity, and increaſes daily in its Reputation. They likewiſe make here the *Duffield* Stuffs, a Yard and Three-quarters wide, which are carried

to *New England* and *Virginia*, and now much worn even here in Winter. Here are likewiſe a great many Fellmongers, who, having dreſſed and ſtained their Sheep-ſkins, make them into Jackets and Breeches, and ſell them at *Bampton*; from whence they are diſperſed all over the neighbouring Counties. Here is a good Free-ſchool, and a fine Library belonging to it.

Witney is an antient Town, and of good Repute before the Conqueſt; but it is a long, ſtraggling, uncouth Place, tho' full of Inhabitants. 'Twas one of the Manors which *Alwinus* Biſhop of *Wincheſter* gave to the Church of *St. Swithin*'s there, on Queen *Emma*'s happily paſſing over the *Fire Ordeal*.

At *Aſtal*, a Village on the Road between *Burford* and *Witney*, is a Barrow which ſtands very high, and is ſuppoſed to be the Sepulcre of ſome Perſon of great Note.

Southward lies *Bampton*, on the Borders of the County next *Berkſhire*. It is an antient Market-town, likewiſe in Repute before the Conqueſt: it is noted for the greateſt Market for Fellmonger-wares in *England*, which come from *Witney*, and for nothing elſe that I know of, ſaving that the People talked much of a Family of the *Woods* (that dwelt here and at *Briſenorton*) who hear always a great Knocking before any of them die.

Turning here Weſt, we entered *Glouceſterſhire* again, and came to *Lechlade*, which lies on the great Road to *Glouceſter*. It is probable, that it was antiently a *Roman* Town upon the *Thames*; for a very plain *Roman* Road runs from hence to *Cirenceſter*. Some ſay, that it was once a famous Univerſity for teaching *Latin*, as *Creeklade* was for *Greek*.

The antient Building lately diſcovered by digging in a Meadow near *Lechlade* deſerves a particular Mention:

tion: it is 50 Feet long, 40 broad, and four high; ſupported with 100 Brick Pillars, curiouſly inlaid with Stones of divers Colours, of Teſſeraic Work; and ſuppoſed to be a *Roman* Bath.

Not far from it are the two Towns called *Sarney*; ſo named in *Britiſh*, from the *Roman* Cauſeways; for *Sarn*, in that antient Language, and at preſent, imports a paved Way. The River *Lech* runs thro' it, and diſcharges itſelf into the *Thames*. A great Number of Barges go from hence to *London*.

From *Lechlade* we proceeded Weſt to *Fairford*, a ſmall Market-town, thro' which runs the River *Coln*, which has two large Bridges over it. A great many Medals and Urns have been often dug up here, and there are ſeveral Barrows in the adjoining Fields, (which ſeem to have been a Scene of warlike Actions) the Monuments of the Slain interred here.

A great many Charities are ſtill ſubſiſting in this Town; but what it is moſt noted for is its Church, and the admirable Painting in its Windows: of which take the following Deſcription and Hiſtory.

John Tame, a Merchant of *London*, purchaſed this Manor of King *Henry* VII. (to whom it deſcended from the *Beauchamps*, Earls of *Warwick*); and having taken a Prize-ſhip bound for *Rome*, wherein he found a great Quantity of painted Glaſs, he brought both the Glaſs and the Workmen into *England*. The Glaſs was ſuch a Curioſity, that Mr. *Tame* built this Church at *Fairford* (dedicating it to the Virgin *Mary*); which is in Length 125 Feet, and 55 in Breadth; and has three Chancels, a good Veſtry, and a noble Tower, ariſing from the Midſt of it, adorned with Pinacles; and the Windows of the Church, 28 in Number, he cauſed to be glazed with this invaluable Prize, which remains intire to this Day, the Admiration of all that ſee it.

Mrs.

Mrs. *Farmer* (a Daughter of the Lord *Lemſter*) gave 200*l.* to be laid out in mending and wiring the Windows: this has preſerved them from Accidents. And, in the grand Rebellion, the Impropriator Mr. *Oldworth*, and others (to their great Praiſe be it remembred!), took down the Glaſs, and ſecured it in ſome ſecret Place, thereby preſerving it from fanatic Rage. The Painting was the Deſign of *Albert Durer*, a famous *Italian* Maſter; and the Colouring in the Drapery, and ſome of the Figures, is ſo well performed, that *Vandyke* affirmed, the Pencil could not exceed it.

The Subject is all Scripture Hiſtory; *viz.* The Serpent tempting *Eve*; God appearing in the burning Buſh to *Moſes*, when a Shepherd; the Angel conducting *Joſhua* to War; *Gideon*'s Fleece; the Queen of *Sheba*'s Viſit to *Solomon*; King *David* judging the *Amalekite* Regicide; *Samſon* ſlaying the *Philiſtines*, killing the Lion, and his being betrayed by *Dalilah*; *Solomon*'s Judgment between the two Harlots; and the Figures of the twelve major Prophets.

But the greateſt Part is taken up with the Stories of the New Teſtament: The Angel appearing to *Zacharias*; *Joſeph* and *Mary* contracted; the Viſitation of *Mary* by the Angel, and her viſiting her Couſin *Elizabeth*; our Saviour born in a Stable; the Shepherds and *Magi* viſiting him there; *Herod* waiting the Return of the wiſe Men; *Chriſt* circumciſed; the Purification of the Holy Virgin; *Simeon* with our Saviour in his Arms; *Joſeph*'s Flight into *Egypt*; *Herod* ſlaying the young Children of *Bethlehem*; the Aſſumption of the Virgin, and *Joſeph* and ſhe ſeeking *Jeſus* at the Feaſt: our Saviour's Transfiguration, *Mary* anointing his Head; the Diſciples going to embalm him, and the Angel relating to them his Reſurrection; *Chriſt*'s Appearance to *Mary Magdalen*; his riding to *Jeruſalem* on an Aſs; *Zaccheus*,

and

and the People ſtrewing Palm-branches, and Children crying *Hoſanna*; his praying in the Garden; *Judas* betraying him; *Pilate* judging him, and waſhing his Hands from the Guilt; the Crucifixion between two Thieves, the Women ſtanding by, and the Soldiers watching him; *Joſeph* of *Arimathea* begging the Body, and receiving it; his Burial by *Nicodemus*, and others; the Darkneſs at the Paſſion; and *Michael* contending with the Devil.

Chriſt's traveling to *Emmaus*, and his Appearance to the Eleven, and afterwards to *Thomas*; his Diſciples going a fiſhing, and *Chriſt*'s appearing to them, with the breaking of the Net, and broiling of the Fiſh; *Chriſt*'s Aſcenſion, and the Deſcent of the Holy Ghoſt in cloven Tongues.

In the Weſt Window is the Laſt Judgment, curiouſly deſigned, and well executed, containing a vaſt Number of Incidents relating thereto.

In the reſt of the Windows are many hiſtorical Paſſages, that happened after *Chriſt*'s Aſcenſion; *viz.* The twelve Apoſtles at large, with the Article of the Creed they are ſaid to be ſeverally the Authors of; the four Evangeliſts, as writing the Goſpels; four principal Fathers of the Church, *viz.* St. *Jerom*, St. *Gregory*, St. *Ambroſe*, and St. *Auſtin*; the Worthies that have preſerved the Chriſtian Church, in four Upper-windows of the middle Iſle on the South-ſide, and the Perſecutors thereof in the four oppoſite Windows.

I have been as brief as poſſible in this Deſcription, being ſo much confined in my Limits; but a curious Traveler will be highly delighted with this noble Work. And I ſhall only add, That *John Tame*, Eſq; the pious and worthy Founder, who died in the Year 1500. lies buried on the North-ſide of the Church, under a raiſed Marble Monument.

On

On the *Churn*, one of the Rivers I have juſt named, ſtands *Cirenceſter* (or *Ciceſter*, for Brevity), the antient *Corinium* of the *Romans*, and ſaid to be rebuilt by *Ciſſa*, a Viceroy under one of the *Saxon* Kings, a great and populous City; then incloſed with Walls, and a Ditch of vaſt Compaſs, which may be traced quite round. The Foundation of the Wall is alſo very viſible in moſt Places. A good Part of this Circuit is now Paſture, Corn-fields, and Gardens, beſides the Site of the preſent Town. Antiquities are dug up here every Day; old Foundations, Houſes, and Streets, and many moſaic Pavements, with Rings, Intaglia's, and Coins innumerable, eſpecially in one great Garden, called *Lewis' Grounds*, which might have been the *Prætorium*, or General's Quarters; for *Llys*, in *Britiſh*, ſignifies a Palace. Large Quantities of carved Stones are carried off yearly in Carts, to mend the Highways, beſides what have been uſed in Building. A fine moſaic Pavement was dug up here *Anno* 1723. with many Coins. One Mr. *Richard Biſhop* lately dug up in his Garden a Vault 16 Feet long, and 12 broad, ſupported with ſquare Pillars of *Roman* Brick, three Feet and an half high, on which was a ſtrong Floor of Terrace. Near it are now ſeveral other Vaults, on which Cherry-trees grow. Theſe might have been the Foundations of a Temple; for in the ſame Place they found ſeveral Stones of the Shafts of Pillars ſix Feet long, and large Stone Baſes, with Cornices very handſomely moulded, and carved with Modilions, and other Ornaments, which are now converted into Swine-troughs, and Pavements before the Door. Capitals of theſe Pillars were likewiſe found. A moſaic Pavement near it, and intire, is now the Floor of his Privy.

Half a Mile Weſt of the Town, on the North-ſide of the *Foſſe* Road, at a Place called *Quern*, other Antiquities are to be ſeen worth an Antiquary's Attention;

tention; but I muſt not take up too much Room in deſcribing them.

Little of the Abbey is now left, beſides two old and indifferent Gate-houſes. The Church is a very handſome Building; the Windows are full of painted Glaſs; and it has a fine lofty Tower. Eaſt of the Town, about a Quarter of a Mile, is *Starbury-mount*, a Barrow, where *Roman* Coins have been dug up. Weſt, behind Lord *Bathurſt*'s Garden, is *Griſmund's-mount*, of which ſeveral Fables are told.

Cirenceſter is ſtill a very good Town, populous and rich, full of Clothiers, and driving a great Trade in Wool, which is brought from the Inland Counties of *Leiceſter*, *Northampton*, and *Lincoln*, where the largeſt Sheep in *England* feed, and where are but few Manufactures. The vaſt Quantities ſold here are almoſt incredible. The Wool is bought up here, chiefly by the Clothiers of *Wiltſhire* and *Glouceſterſhire*, for the Supply of that great Clothing-trade, which I have mentioned already: they talk of 5000 Packs a Year.

The Town is governed by two High Conſtables. It has two weekly Markets; one on *Monday*, for Corn, Cattle, and Proviſions; and on *Friday* for Wool chiefly. It has alſo five Fairs, three for all ſorts of Commodities, and two for Cloth only; and ſends two Members to Parliament. Here is a fine large beautiful Church with two Iſles, ſupported by ſtrong Pillars. The Chancel is handſomely decorated. It has five Chapels adjoining to it, and has a Tower very neat and lofty, with an excellent Ring of Bells in it. The Windows ſhew ſome beautiful Remains of exquiſite painted Glaſs. There are a Free-ſchool, and divers Hoſpitals and Alms-houſes, in this Pariſh.

The *Churn* runs from hence down Southwaru to *Creeklade* in *Wiltſhire*, which is ſaid to have been antiently a very noted Place, containing 1300 Houſes,

and

and that an Univerſity was here founded by the antient *Britons*, for teaching *Greek*, as I have ſaid, as *Lechlade* was for *Latin*; which Univerſity was removed, as they pretend, by the *Saxons*, to *Oxon*: but, I doubt, theſe are Monkiſh Accounts; for *Creeklade*, which they would have to ſignify a *Greek* Town, is a Corruption of the *Britiſh* Word *Kerigg gwlade*, i. e. a ſtony Country. The *Churn* and the *Rey* fall, here, into the *Thames*. Here is a good Free-ſchool: and the Town ſend two Members to Parliament.

North-weſt of *Cirenceſter*, upon an Hill, ſtands *Stroud*, a little Market-town, noted for Clothing, and particularly for dying excellent Scarlet. The Church is 90 Feet long, and 40 broad. The Chancel is 33 Feet long, and 16 wide. At the Weſt End riſes an high Spire Steeple, and a Tower in the Middle.

North of it ſtands *Paynſwick*, a Market-town, ſituate in the wholſomeſt Air in the County, on the River *Stroud*, where the Clothing-trade is alſo carried on. The Church is a Vicarage, and very handſome, with 2 Chancels, a N. Iſle, and a neat Spire.

Lower to the South-weſt of *Cirenceſter* ſtands *Minching-Hampton*; ſo called, becauſe it belonged to the *Minching* Nuns at *Caen* in *Normandy*. Here is a good Rectory-Church worth 200 *l.* a Year, large, in the Form of a Croſs, with Iſles on each Side, and a Tower with Battlements riſing in the Middle. In the North Iſle are a great many Inſcriptions of Benefactions. And in the South Iſle is the Statue of a Man lying croſs-legg'd, with a Sword and Shield by him, and his Wife lying at his Feet.

Then we came to *Tetbury*, one of the Clothing Towns I mentioned; a conſiderable Market-town, ſituate on a riſing Ground, in an healthy Air, but ſcarce of Water in Summer. 'Tis well-built, has a large Market-houſe well frequented for Yarn; and there

there is a leſſer Market-houſe, for Cheeſe, Bacon, and other Commodities. 'Tis governed by a Bailiff, and at the End of the Town is a long Bridge, whereof one half is in *Wiltſhire*. The Church is a Vicarage, worth 120 *l.* a Year: 'tis a good Building, large and handſome, in which are divers Monuments. Here are a Free-ſchool and an Alms-houſe. It had formerly a Caſtle built by *Dunwallo Malmuſius*, a *Britiſh* Prince. The Town ſeems to be well furniſhed with every thing but Water, which is ſo ſcarce, that the Inhabitants are obliged to buy it at the Rate ſometimes of 18 *d.* for an Hogſhead. In this Pariſh riſes the River *Avon*, which runs thro' *Briſtol*, and afterwards falls into the *Severn*.

A little to the North of this Town is a Meadow, called *Maudlin Meadow*, becauſe. as I was told, it belongs to *Magdalen-College* in *Oxford*. Here the Inhabitants ſhewed me the Head of a Spring, which flowing from thence runs along an Hedge-trough; and ſome Tops of the Wood, that grows in the Hedge, rotting, and falling into this Rill of Water, are, by it, turned into Stone. I took up a great many of them, which are generally in the Shape of the Pipes (as they are commonly called), which the Peruke-makers curl their Hair upon, and of a whitiſh, ſtony Subſtance. I broke divers of them, and in the Middle found generally a Stick of Wood, ſome as big as a Gooſe-quill, others larger; ſome had but a thin ſtoney Cruſt about them, in others the Stick was no bigger than a large Needle: again, ſome had no Stick in them, but only an Hole thro' them, like that of a Tobacco-pipe; and in ſome others I could perceive no woody Subſtance, nor Hole at all, but the Whole was a ſoft kind of Stone. Hence I gueſs, that the Sand, which the Water brings down with it, gathers and cruſts about thoſe Sticks; and that, in time, the Stick conſumes, and the ſtony or ſandy

Subſtance

Subſtance fills up and ſupplies its Place. And I would hence recommend it as an Inquiry, Whether thoſe other Tranſmutations of this kind, that we meet with in the Natural Hiſtory of this and other Nations, be not brought about in the like manner.

And now I am dipped into this Work of Nature, let me digreſs a little, and take notice of the *Aſtroites*, or Star-ſtones, found at *Laſſington* in this County, which have that peculiar Quality of Motion when put into Vinegar.——In the Fields, near *Badminton*, are found cylindrical and ſpherical Stones, almoſt as big as Cannon Balls. And on the Hills about *Aldely*, are found Stones of the ſame kind with thoſe I found about *Watchet* in *Somerſetſhire*, reſembling all kinds of Shell-fiſh: theſe, I muſt confeſs, are, of the two, more aſtoniſhing, becauſe they are found on the Hills; for if they were, as *Fracaſtorius* conjectures, Animals ingendered in the Sea, no good Account of their being here found can be given, unleſs we ſuppoſe them brought hither by the general Deluge.— The Water of the River *Stroud*, in this County, is eſteemed the beſt for dying Scarlets, which draws many Clothiers to ſettle in that Neighbourhood. And, leſt I ſhould be thought too tedious, let me but juſt mention the Diamonds (*Briſtol* Stones rather) found near the Banks of the River *Avon*. That ſoft, eaſy-to-be-wrought Stone at *Great Banington*, called *Puff-ſtone*, prodigiouſly ſtrong and laſting; a great deal of which hath been uſed in the Repairs of *Weſtminſter-Abbey*.

Wickwar, a ſmall Market-town, but a very antient Corporation, governed by a Mayor, is the next. The Church is a large Edifice, with two Chancels. The Tower is at the Weſt-end, and is high, adorned with Pinacles. Here is a Free-ſchool.

Chipping-Sodbury lies a little farther in the Road, an antient Borough-town, under a Mayor, Aldermen,

and

and Burgeſſes. As it is a great Thoroughfare to *Briſtol*, it is full of good Inns. It has ſeveral Streets beſides Lanes, and a good Market; and a large ſpacious Church, which, however, is but a Chapel of Eaſe to *Old Sodbury*. Here is the greateſt Cheeſe-market in *England*, except *Atherſtone* in *Warwickſhire*.

Here we dropp'd the Road, and fell down Southward, directly to *Marſhfield*, another of the Clothe-ing-towns I ſpoke of. It conſiſts of one Street of old Buildings, near a Mile long. It has a Market, and drives alſo a great Trade in Malt, and is noted for good Cakes. 'Tis governed by a Bailiff. Here is a good Vicarage-Church, with ſeveral Monuments and Inſcriptions in the Iſles, and the Chancel. Here is an Alms-houſe well endowed, and a Chapel to it.

We croſſed the great Road from *London* to *Briſtol* here, as at *Cirenceſter* we did that from *London* to *Glouceſter*; and, keeping ſtill the Foſſeway, arrived at *Bath*. But here I ſhall conclude this Letter, and am,

SIR,

Yours, &c.

LET-

LETTER V.

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION *of Part of the Counties of* SOMERSET, GLOUCESTER, WARWICK, WORCESTER, HEREFORD, *and* MONMOUTH.

SIR,

I Cloſed my laſt Letter with my Arrival at BATH, in *Somerſetſhire*; and I ſhall now proceed with giving you an Account of what is moſt remarkable in it.

The Antiquity of this City, and of the famous Baths in it, muſt be allowed to be very great, even tho' we ſhould doubt of what is inſiſted on in the Inſcription under the Figure of King *Bladud*, placed in the King's Bath, which ſays, that this Prince (whom Mr. *Camden* calls *Blayden*, or *Bladen Cloyth*, i. e. *Soothſayer*) found out the Uſe of theſe Baths, 863 Years before our Saviour's Time.

Bath is a Spot of Ground, which our Countrymen ought to eſteem as a particular Favour of Heaven. It lies in a great Valley, ſurrounded with an Amphitheatrical View of Hills; and its Situation on the Weſt-ſide of the Iſland is a conſiderable Addition to its

its Delights, as being the leſs liable to the rude Shocks of Tempeſts. But the *Romans* were induced prudently, by the admirable hot Springs, to make a Station here, which they called *Camulodunum*, from the Mountain on the South-ſide of it dedicated to *Camulos*, the *Britiſh* God of War, and ſtill bearing his *Saxon* Name of *Odin*; the Hill being ſtyled *Odin*'s Down, tho' its Summit, for the chief part, goes by the Name of the Pariſhes among which the Land is divided. The Walls are almoſt intire, and perhaps the Work of the *Romans*, except the upper Part, which ſeems repaired with the Ruins of *Roman* Buildings; for the Lewis-holes are ſtill left in many of the Stones, and, to the Shame of the Repairers, many *Roman* Inſcriptions, ſome ſawn acroſs, to fit the Size of the Place. The Level of the City is riſen to the Top of the firſt Walls, thro' the Negligence of the Magiſtracy, who, in this, and all other great Towns, connive at the Servants throwing Dirt and Aſhes into the Streets. Theſe Walls incloſe but a ſmall Compaſs, of a pentagonal Form. There are four Gates on four Sides, and a Poſtern on the other. From the South-weſt Angle have been an additional Wall and Ditch carried out to the River; by which ſhort Work, the Approach of an Enemy on two Sides is intercepted, unleſs they paſs the River. The ſmall Compaſs of the City has made the Inhabitants croud up the Streets to an unſeemly and inconvenient Narrowneſs. It is, however, handſomely built, moſtly of new Stone, which is very white and good. The great Additions made, and ſtill making, to the Buildings here, I ſhall mention by-and-by.

It was of old a Reſort for Cripples, and diſeaſed Perſons; and we ſee the Crutches hang up at the ſeveral Baths, as the Thank-offerings of thoſe who came hither lame, and went away cured. But now we may ſay it is a Reſort of the Sound, as well as the Sick,

Sick, and a Place that helps the Indolent and the Gay to commit that worſt of Murders, that is to ſay, to *kill Time*.

To ſuch it is indeed a conſtant Round of Diverſion. In the Morning, the young Lady is brought in a cloſe Chair, dreſſed in her Bathing-cloaths, to the *Croſs-bath*. There the Muſic plays her into the Bath, and the Women who tend her preſent her with a little floating wooden Diſh, like a Baſon; into which the Lady puts an Handkerchief and a Noſegay, and of late the Snuff-box is added. She then traverſes the Bath, if a Novice, with a Guide; if otherwiſe, by herſelf; and having amuſed herſelf near an Hour, calls for her Chair, and returns to her Lodgings.

The reſt of the Diverſion is at *The* ROOMS, as they are called: and perhaps Mr. *Leake*, who keeps one of the fineſt Bookſellers Shops in *Europe*, has more than a Chance for half an Hour of each Perſon's Company now-and then, and to be ſure a Subſcription, which is but five Shillings the Seaſon, for taking home what Book you pleaſe; but Perſons of Quality generally ſubſcribe Gold, and I think it is the very beſt Money laid out in the Place, for thoſe who go for Pleaſure or Amuſement only. In the Afternoon there is frequently a Play, tho' the Decorations are mean, and indeed the Performances too. In the Evening, People aſſemble at the great Rooms; and there are Balls twice a Week. 'Tis alſo the Faſhion of the Place, for the Company to go every Day pretty conſtantly to hear Divine Service at the Great Church, and at *St. Mary*'s Chapel in *Queen's-ſquare*, where are Prayers twice a Day.

'Tis remarkable, that, for many hundreds of Years, the medicinal Virtues of theſe Waters have been uſeful to the diſeaſed People, by Batheing only; whereas, of late Years, they are found to be no leſs healthful,

in

in many Caſes, taken inwardly; inſomuch that more come to drink than to bathe; nor are the Cures they perform this way leſs valuable than the outward Application.

Gaming uſed to obtain here, as at all public Places, to a ſcandalous Degree; but the Act prohibiting that pernicious Practice has a good deal checked its Progreſs. This Act paſſed in the 12th of King *George* II. and ſuppreſſes, on the Penalty of 200 *l.* and 50 *l.* the Adventures, the following Games by Name; *viz.* *The Ace of Hearts*, *Pharaoh*, *Baſſet*, *Hazard*; alſo all *Sales*, *Raffles*, *Lotteries*, *Mathematical Machines*, &c. *Sales by Lotteries* are declared void, and what is put up by them forfeited; nor are Convictions to be vacated for want of Form.

But this Act being eluded by new Games ſet up, a Clauſe was inſerted in the *Horſe-racing* Act, *Anno* 13 *Geo.* II. prohibiting *Paſſage*, and all other Games with Dice, except what are played on the *Backgamon* Tables.

As to the more particular Nature and Virtues of the Waters, I have been favoured, by a very eminent Phyſician, with the following curious Account of them, and their Original.

Of BATH *Waters.*

The *Bath* Waters certainly owe their Original to a Mixture and Fermentation of two different Sources, diſtilling from the Tops of two different Mountains (*Claverton* and *Lanſdown*), meeting in the Valley where the Town ſtands; for all Hills are Neſts of Metals or Minerals, and their Bellies are cavernous and hollow. It is not therefore improbable, that on *Claverton-Down* there ſhould lie the ſulphurous Matter, which muſt riſe by Impregnation from that excellent Stone ariſing in ſeveral Parts of the Mountain, which hardens in the Air, and grows caſed with a

nitrous Coat by Time and cold Weather, and is ſo readily cut out and carved into any the moſt exquiſite Shapes. This is the Property of the worthy, charitable, and pious *Ralph Allen*, Eſq; For all Mineral Waters owe their Virtue to an Impregnation of Rain Water, generated from the Clouds, which are compreſſed in their Courſe by Mountains or Eminences, and fall on the reſpective included Mineral. And every-one knows, that a due Mixture of Sulphur and Filings of Iron, moiſtened with Water, will produce any Degree of Heat. This Stone therefore muſt have a large Quantity of ſulphurous or bituminous Matter in its Compoſition, as will be evident to a Natural Philoſopher, from theſe mentioned Qualities. Neither is it improbable, that the ferruginous or iron-tinctured Water takes its Riſe from *Lanſdown*; the Stone on it being hard, and on the Top flinty, black, and acrimonious, as Iron Ore is known to be. Theſe two Mountains, thus tinged by Rain Water falling from the proper Heights, meet in ſome Caverns in the Valley; and, there fermenting, produce that hot, milky, ſoft, ſalutiferous Beverage, called *Bath Water*, far beyond any hot mineral Waters for its Delicacy, and ſupportable, tho' comfortable, Heat, to any other ſuch Water hitherto diſcovered on the habitable Globe, as it poſſeſſes that Milkineſs, Detergency, and middling Heat, ſo friendly adapted to weakened animal Conſtitutions, which all other hot Waters want in the due Degree; either being too hot, or too cold, to do any great Good in Caſes where they are proper. Theſe Waters are beneficial in almoſt all chronical Diſtempers, and can hurt in none, except in Hemorrhages, Inflammations, or bad Lungs, unleſs they be over-doſed in Quantity, or too high and too hot a Regimen be joined with them; for they always procure a great Appetite, and good Spirits, if cautiouſly managed; but if high Meats, and

ſtrong

ſtrong Liquors, be indulged, they will create inflammatory Diſorders. However, in weak Stomachs, decayed Appetites, Colicks; low Spirits, in the Intervals of the Fits of the Gout and Stone; in Rheumatiſms, Palſies, nervous Diſorders; and, in a word, all thoſe called the cold Diſeaſes; but moſt eminently, in all the Diſorders of the chyliferous Tube, or the Stomach and Belly not inflamed, they are more kindly and beneficial than any Medicine known in Nature; and introduce a natural Warmth, and a new internal Heat, into decayed, worn-out, ſuperannuated Conſtitutions; and if a light Regimen, due Exerciſe, and good Hours, be joined with them, they would truly work Wonders: but, by the Neglect of theſe, their Efficacy is often loſt, and their Credit brought into Queſtion.

Great Additions have been made to the Buildings within theſe few Years; particularly by the late Duke of *Chandos*, and the late Mr. *Thayer*, one of the Commiſſioners of the Exciſe.

Without the Walls, a ſtately new Square is erected, with a fine Chapel; and the Middle is incloſed by Rails, and handſomely laid out within.

In the Centre is a lofty Obeliſk 70 Feet high from the Foundation, and terminated in a Point. Level with one's Eye is the incloſed Inſcription:

IN MEMORY
OF HONOUR BESTOW'D,
AND IN GRATITUDE
FOR BENEFITS CONFERR'D
IN THIS CITY,
BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
FREDERIC
PRINCE OF *WALES*,
AND HIS ROYAL *CONSORT*,

IN THE YEAR M.DCC.XXXVIII.
THIS OBELISK IS ERECTED,
BY *RICHARD NASH, Eſq*;

The *Bath-ſtone*, which I have mentioned before, affords a fine Opportunity to imbelliſh and give a noble Look to the Buildings here, and at a very cheap Rate; for the Front of the Houſes on the North Side of the Square coſt no more than 500*l.* tho' it is above 200 Feet in Extent, and enriched with Columns and Pilaſters in the *Corinthian Order*. All the Danger is, that they will over-build themſelves, now they are got into the Humour, and make it leſs worth while to thoſe who lett Lodgings, the principal Buſineſs of the Place; but then People of Fortune, ſettling there, will make amends for it; ſince no leſs than 70 or 80 Families are already become conſtant Inhabitants, and others are daily takeing Houſes.

The Grove, too, near the Abbey-church, now called *Orange-ſquare*, in Compliment to the Prince of *Orange*, when there, has ſeveral handſome new-built Houſes; and a monumental Stone is erected, with an Inſcription in Honour to the Prince of *Orange*, and the Place; his Highneſs having been obliged to viſit *Bath* for his Health, juſt before he married the Princeſs Royal of *England*, and received great Benefit by the Waters. This likewiſe was erected by the famous Mr. *Naſh*, to whoſe good Management and Behaviour *Bath* is greatly indebted; every-one ſubmitting with Delight to the Regulations he impoſes, with regard to Decorum, and the good Order of the Place.

The Inſcription on the Stone above is as follows:

IN MEMORIAM
SANITATIS

PRIN-

PRINCIPI AURIACO
AQUARUM THERMALIUM POTU,
FAVENTE DEO,
OVANTE *BRITANNIA*,
FELICITER RESTITUTÆ.
M.DCC.XXXV.

Thus tranſlated:

In Memory of the happy Reſtoration of the Health of the Prince of *Orange* by the drinking of the *Bath Waters*, thro' the Favour of GOD, and to the extreme Joy of *Britain*, 1735.

General *Wade*, one of the Repreſentatives in Parliament for this City, has given a fine Altar-piece to the Great Church there: he has alſo been at the Charge of having the Picture drawn of every-one of his Electors (the Members of the Corporation), and ſet up round the Town-hall; and his own too he has ſuffered to be put up over the Entrance, as if he would make good that Paſs, and keep them all to *Duty*. At the upper End of the Hall, are lately ſet up the Pictures of the Prince and Princeſs of *Wales*, a Preſent made by their Royal Highneſſes to the Corporation, who likewiſe before preſented it with a fine large wrought Silver Cup and Waiter, gilt.

There is a very great Narrowneſs of Spirit in moſt of the Inhabitants at *Bath:* but, indeed, it is the ſame in all public Places of Reſort. They have but their *Seaſons*; and they are ſo hungry by that time they come about, that they look upon a new Comer, as a Perſon to be *ſhared* and *divided* among them: for this Reaſon, you'll always find them with *both* Hands open to *receive*; and not *one* to *communicate*, or do a *generous* Office, without a Benefit in *Poſſeſſion* or *Reverſion*. And when they receive a Favour at your Hands, 'tis with ſuch an Air, as if it were

their *Due*, and they quitted Scores with you by their Acceptance of it.

The *Abbey-church* is a venerable Pile, and has many Monuments in it. But the principal Front is almoſt blaſphemouſly decorated, if it may be called decorated, with the Figures of God the Father, and Saints and Angels, the Work of Superſtition. This Cathedral, tho' beautiful, is but ſmall; and on the Spot probably ſtood the *Roman* Temple of *Minerva*, Patroneſs of the Baths. Before it, was an handſome ſquare Area, but of late Years deformed with Houſes.

On the South-ſide are the juſtly renowned hot Springs, collected into a ſquare Area, called *the King's Bath*. The Corporation erected within theſe few Years that pretty neat Building before it, called *the Pump-room*, for the Company to meet in, who drink the Water, conveyed hither by a Marble Pump from the Bottom of the Springs, where it is near boiling-hot.

This Water is admirably grateful to the Stomach, ſtriking the Roof of the Mouth with a fine ſulphurous and ſteely Taſte, like that of the *German Spaw*, or *Pyrmont*. Tho' you drink off a large Pint-glaſs, it is ſo far from creating an Heavineſs or Naüſea, that you immediately perceive yourſelf more alert. At firſt, it operates by Stool, and eſpecially Urine. It is of ſovereign Efficacy to ſtrengthen the Bowels, reſtore their loſt Tone, and renew the vital Heat. But I have already mentioned its excellent Qualities.

The King's Bath is an oblong Square, the Walls full of Niches, perhaps the *Romans* Work. There are twelve on the North-ſide, eight on the Eaſt and Weſt, about four larger Arches on the South. At every Corner are the Steps to deſcend into it, and a Parapet, or Baluſtrade, with a Walk round it.

The Springs were doubtleſs ſeparated from common Springs by the *Romans*, and fenced in with a durable

durable Wall. There goes a probable Tradition of ſubterranean Canals, of their Making, to carry off the other Waters, leſt they ſhould mix with theſe, and deſtroy the Heat.

It is remarkable, that, at the cleanſing of the Springs, when they ſet down a new Pump, they conſtantly find great Quantities of Hazel-nuts, as in many other Places among ſubterraneous Timber. Theſe, Dr. *Stukely* doubts not, are the Remainder of the univerſal Deluge, which the *Hebrew* Hiſtorian tells us was in Autumn, Providence by that means ſecuring the Revival of the vegetable World.

In the Bath, People ſtand up to the Chin, Men and Women, and ſtew, moſtly in the way of Gallantry.

Many are the Diſeaſes which here find a Remedy, when judiciouſly applied, as I obſerved above. The Confluence hither is greater in Summer, than in Winte, tho' the latter, of the two, ſeems the more preferable Seaſon for medicinal Purpoſes.

Behind the Southern Wall of *the King's Bath*, is a leſs Square, named *the Queen's Bath*, with a Tabernacle of four Pillars in the midſt. This is of more temperate Warmth, as borrowing its Water from the other. There are likewiſe Pumps and Pumping-rooms, for pouring hot Streams on any Part of the Body; which in many Caſes is very ſalutary.

In the South-weſt Part of the Town are two other Baths, not to be diſregarded.

The Hot Bath is not much inferior in Heat to *the King's Bath*; it is a ſmall Parallelogram, with a Stone Tabernacle of four Pillars in the midſt.

The Croſs Bath near it is triangular, and had a Croſs in the middle. Hard by is an Hoſpital, built and endowed by a Prelate of this See. The Water in theſe two Places riſes near the Level of the Streets.

On the South-ſide of the Cathedral, are ſome Parts of the Abbey left, and the Gate-houſe belonging to it.

Within theſe few Years, by a Contribution, a cold Bath, for the Benefit of the Infirm, was made at a Spring beyond the Bridge.

Two *Roman* Inſcriptions have been ſet in the Eaſtern Wall of the Cathedral, fronting the Walks; which, beſides the Injuries of the Weather, are expoſed to the miſchievous Sport of Boys, who throw Stones at them.

The ſeveral Baths are very indifferently kept, as their Uſe ſo much increaſes. But a fine Deſign is now on foot to make convenient Slips, with Dreſſing-rooms, and Apartments for pumping on People, without going into the Bath, and for inlarging the Pump-room ſo as to hold four or five Pumps.

The greateſt Decency is obſerved here by both Sexes; and while Mr. *Naſh* lives, it muſt be always ſo. There is a very good Conveniency of Chairs, of which there are great Plenty, and very genteel ones, to go to any Part within the Walls, and even to the adjoining Buildings without, for 6 *d.* provided the Diſtance does not exceed 500 Yards; but if it does, the Fare is 1 *s.* and for this the Chairmen are obliged to go a Mile. In ſhort, it is a delightful Place enough, when you are in it, but formerly a dreadful one to come at, down high Hills, in ſome Places like Precipices: tho' Health or Pleaſure oblige People to diſpenſe with this Difficulty.

Bath being invironed with Hills, and the River winding between them in the Middle of a rich Vale, the Meadows on each Side the Stream afford many pleaſant Walks; and, if you mount the Hills on Horſeback, *Lanſdown*, or rather *Mons Badonea*, *Claverton-Down*, which is Part of *Odin's-Down*, *Haul-Down*,

Down, *Bannagh-Down*, and *King's-Down*, are the moſt delightful Rides that can be conceived.

The Acceſs to theſe Hills grows every Day better and better, by the Prudence and good Management of the Commiſſioners of the Turnpike-roads; ſo that, tho' few People cared to keep Coaches here formerly, yet the Uſe of thoſe Machines here has greatly increaſed of late Years. Before the firſt Turnpike-Act was obtained, the direct Road to *Lanſdown* was ſo ſteep, that Queen *Anne* was extremely frighted in going up: her Coachman ſtopping to give the Horſes Breath, and the Coach wanting a Dragſtaff, it ran back, in ſpite of all the Coachman's Skill; the Horſes not being brought to ſtrain the Harneſs again, or pull together, for a good while, and the Coach putting the Guards behind in great Confuſion: at laſt, ſome of the Servants, ſetting their Heads and Shoulders to the Wheels, ſtopped them by mere Force.

The General Hoſpital in this City, for the Reception of the ſick Poor all over the Kingdom, is a very noble Deſign. The firſt Stone of it was laid the 6th of *July* 1738. It is built where the old Play-houſe ſtood, and is a noble Pile of Building, 100 Feet in Front, and 90 Feet deep. It is capable of receiving 150 poor Cripples.

The King, the Prince and Princeſs of *Wales*, and ſome of the Princeſſes, have been great Promoters of this Work: and, among other Benefactors, the Widow of the late Mr. *Holding* of *London*, and Mr. *Allen* of *Prior-Park* near *Bath*, of whom I ſhall ſay more anon, are the chief; the former giving 2000 *l.* in Money, and the latter permitting the Truſtees of the Charity to fetch from his Stone-yard all the Wall-ſtone, wrought Free-ſtone, Paving-ſtone, and Lime, that were neceſſary to be added to the Stone which the old Buildings, that were taken down,

produced, to complete the Maſons-work of the new Edifice, beſides giving a very large Sum of Money.

A very great Deſign was alſo begun in this City, of which take the following Account, as it ſome Years ago appeared in the public Papers.

On the 10th of *March* 1739-40. the firſt Stone of a new Square was laid, in the Gardens adjoining to the public Walks. The principal Side of this Square is to have the Appearance of one Houſe, 520 Feet in Front, and 260 Feet in Depth, but is to be divided into 40 Houſes; each Front is to have 63 Windows, and each End 31. Two of the other Sides are to ſerve as Wings to the principal Side: each Wing is to contain 24 Houſes, upon a perfect Square of 210 Feet, and the Front of theſe Wings are every one to have 25 Windows; ſo that when the whole Building is viewed in Front, it will ſhew 113 Windows, extend 1040 Feet, and from the diſtant Hills look like one grand Palace. The three Piles of Building will be adorned with above 300 Columns and Pilaſters in the Corinthian Order.— Upon the Corner of every Pile there will be a Tower, and in every Front will be a Centre-houſe and a Pediment.

A noble Houſe for public Aſſemblies is to be erected by Subſcription in this Square; the Ball-room will be like an *Egyptian* Hall, and contain in Length 90 Feet, and Breadth 52 Feet. The Aſſembly-room will be 90 Feet long. There will be a Garden for the Ladies to walk in; a Bowling-green for the Gentlemen: a grand Parade of 200 Yards long, a Terrace 500 Yards in Circumference, a Portico of the ſame Dimenſions, with divers other Walks in common for all People, and ſo diſpoſed, that Gentlemen and Ladies may walk at any Seaſon of the Year, at any Hour of the Day, and in any Weather. So that, by theſe great Improvements, *Bath* will be rendered

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one of the moſt agreeable Places in the World; for, facing this Square, a Bridge with an Arch of 102 Feet Opening will be built over the River, by which People of Diſtinction may go to the *Downs*, as into their own Gardens, for the Air, and Exerciſe.

The political Government of *Bath* is in the Hands of a Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-council. It has two Fairs, which are held *Feb.* 3. and on the Feſtival of St. *Peter*; and it ſends two Members to Parliament.

The grand Parade was long ſince finiſhed, as well as Part of the great Terrace; and both are united by two Streets, each of which is 210 Feet in Length by 50 in Breadth. Theſe Walks and Streets have been raiſed upon Arches from 24 to 40 Feet high; and the Buildings fronting them begin to make the Glory of *Bath*, in the Works of Architecture. The Area, which the great Terrace is to ſurround, is named *the Royal Forum*, becauſe *Agricola*, the *Roman* General in *Britain*, built a Forum in the ſame Spot of Ground in the Reign of *Titus Veſpaſian*; and, from that Work, the Region round about the hot Springs was, in ſucceeding Ages, denominated *the Hundred of* Bath *Forum*. The Magnificence of the *Royal Forum*, or grand Place of Aſſembly at *Bath*, may be conceived from the Works already done; and, if it ſhould be completed according to the Deſigns, the City will undoubtedly become the fineſt and moſt agreeable Place of Habitation in the Kingdom.

The *Avon* will divide the *Royal Forum* into two Parts; and, on the Banks of that River, contiguous to the new Buildings, Mr. *Allen*, who for many Years paſt has formed, and been improving, the Croſs-Poſts, has a large Yard, wherein is wrought the Free-ſtone dug from the Quarries on *Comb-Down*, which is another Part of *Odin's-Down*, purchaſed by him ſome Years ago. He has likewiſe a Wharf to embark

the ſame Stone in unwrought Blocks, which are brought down from the Quarry by an admirable Machine, that runs upon a Frame of Timber, of about a Mile and an half in Length, placed partly upon Walls, and partly upon the Ground, like the Wagon-ways belonging to the Collieries in the North of *England*. Two Horſes draw one of theſe Machines, generally loaded with two or three Ton of Stone, over the moſt eaſy Part of the Deſcent; but afterwards its own Velocity forces it down the reſt, and with ſo much Precipitation, that the Man who guides it is ſometimes obliged to lock every Wheel of the Carriage, to ſtop it; which he can do with great Eaſe, by means of Bolts applied to the Front-wheels, and Lavers to the Back-wheels.

This Machine and Frame were the Works of the late Mr. *John Padmore* of *Briſtol*; and his Performance in them, as well as in the Cranes with which the Stone is hoiſted up, is ſuch an Improvement upon the Wagon-ways and Carriages in the North, and upon Cranes in general, as does Honour to his Name.

The Free-ſtone of the Hills about *Bath* can be carried by the *Avon* to *Briſtol*; whence it may be tranſported to any Part of *England*; and the new Works of *St. Bartholomew's Hoſpital* in *London*, as well as the Exchange of *Briſtol*, are built with Stone from Mr. *Allen*'s Quarry.

This Gentleman has built for himſelf a very magnificent Seat; and has placed it almoſt at the Top of the Side of the Hill, where the chief Quarry, from whence the new Buildings of *Bath* have been ſupplied with Free-ſtone, is ſituated. The Seat crowns with the greateſt Beauty a large Court on the North Side of the Mountain, antiently dedicated to the *Britiſh* God of War; and, from that Dent in the Aſcent of the Hill, a Village towards the lower Part of it was denominated *Widcomb*, in which there

is a capital Houſe belonging to Mr. *Bennet*, inhabited by Lord *Anne Hamilton*.

Mr. *Allen*'s Seat, now called *Prior-Park*, commands a Proſpect, as delightful as it is poſſible for the Imagination to conceive; the City of *Bath* being the chief Object; and towards it the principal Front of the Houſe is turned. The Seat conſiſts of an Houſe in the Centre, two Pavilions, and two Wings of Offices, all united by Arcades, and making a continued curved Line of Building of above 1090 Feet in Front, of which the Houſe takes about 150 Feet, and is of the Corinthian Order, elevated upon a ruſtic Baſement, and crowned with a Baluſtrade; the Centre advancing forward, and making one of the largeſt and moſt correct hectaſtyle Porticoes in the Kingdom. The Order includes two Stories, and the Houſe has 15 Windows in the Length of it. The Portico, together with a Corinthian Hall in the principal Story, a Chapel on the ſame Floor of the Ionic Order ſupporting the Corinthian, and a Corinthian Gallery extending over the Hall, and the Room on each Side of it, all finiſhed with Free-ſtone, are the Beauties and Curioſities of the whole Pile, which, from the North Terrace of the *Royal Forum* in *Bath*, appears with very great Advantage on the Side of the Mountain, againſt which it is placed.

The Gardens to this Seat conſiſt of two Terraces, and two Slopes, lying Northward before the Houſe, with winding Walks made through a little Coppice opening to the Weſtward of thoſe Slopes; but all theſe are adorned with Vaſes, and other Ornaments, in Stone-work; and the Affluence of Water is ſo great, that it is received at three different Places, after many little agreeable Falls, at the Head of one of which there is a Statue of *Moſes* down to the Knees, in an Attitude expreſſive of the Admiration he muſt have been in after ſtriking the Rock, and

ſeeing

ſeeing the Water guſh out of it. The winding Walks were made with great Labour; and, tho' no broader than for two or three to walk abreaſt, yet in ſome Places they appear with little Cliffs on one Side, and with ſmall Precipices on the other. Theſe things we may eſteem as Beauties; but if we leave them, and go to what may be called the greater Part of the Gardens, I mean to the Rides which are made through the adjoining Lands, the real Beauties of Nature will appear in great Abundance; and Mr. *Allen* may put the natural Terrace in the Brow of the Hill above his Houſe in Competition with the greateſt Work that ever was made to adorn a Seat; and on that Terrace the Statue of General *Wade* is placed: For where could the Figure of a great Soldier ſtand ſo properly, as on an Hill ſacred to the God of War himſelf?

The Taſte of this Gentleman, in his Gardening, *&c.* is ſo aptly deſcribed by the late Mrs. *Chandler*, of the Place, in an ingenious Poem, called, *The Deſcription of* BATH, that the following Quotation from it muſt be acceptable:

Thy Taſte refin'd appears in yonder Wood,
Not Nature *tortur'd, but by* Art *improv'd;*
Where cover'd Walks *with* open Viſta's *meet,*
An Area *here, and there a* ſhady Seat.
A thouſand Sweets in mingled Odours flow
From blooming Flow'rs, *which on the Borders grow.*
In num'rous Streams the murm'ring Waters thrill,
Uniting all, obedient to thy Will;
Till, by thy Art, in one Canal *combin'd,*
They thro' the Wood *in various* Mazes *wind;*
From thence the foaming Waves fall rapid down,
In bold Caſcades, *and laſh the rugged Stone.*
But, here their Fury loſt, the calmer Scene
Delights the ſofter Muſe, and Soul ſerene:

An ample Baſin, *Centre of the Place,*
In Lymph tranſparent holds the ſcaly Race;
Its glaſſy Face, from ev'ry Ruffle free,
Reflects the Image of each neighb'ring Tree;
On which the feather'd Choir's *melodious Throng,*
By Love inſpir'd, unite in tuneful Song;
Their tuneful Song the echoing Woods *reſound,*
And falling Waters *add a ſolemn Sound:*
Sure this the Muſes haunt; 'tis hallow'd Ground!

At *Walcot*, many *Roman* Antiquities have been found. Lord *Winchelſea* has an Urn, a Patera, and other things taken out of a Stone Coffin, wherein was a Child's Body, half a Mile off the *Bath*.

When one is upon *Lanſdown*, and has paſſed, by a winding Road, all the Steeps and Difficulties of the Aſcent, there is a plain and pleaſant Country for many Miles into *Glouceſterſhire*, and two very noble Houſes: the one built by Mr. *Blaithwait*, Secretary at War in the Reign of Queen *Anne*; and the other is called *Badmington*, a Manſion of the Duke of *Beaufort*.

Nor muſt we forget to mention the handſome Monument erected by Order of the late Lord *Lanſdown*, to the Honour of Sir *Bevil Granville*, his Lordſhip's Anceſtor, with an Inſcription recording the Action in which he fell. It is built on the Brow of *Lanſdown-Hill*, on the very Spot, as near as poſſible, where that brave Gentleman was killed, in the Action between him and Sir *William Waller*, in the late Civil Wars; of which Lord *Clarendon*, and others, give Account.

Juſt below it, we ſee *Lilliput-Caſtle*, a ſmall Place of Retirement, lately made by Mr. *Jerry Pierce*; beautiful in itſelf, but much more ſo in reſpect to its Situation.

I ought

I ought not to omit, that, in the Seſſion of Parliament 1738-9. an Act paſſed for inlarging the Terms and Powers granted by two former Acts of Parliament, for repairing and inlarging the Highways between the Top of *Kingſdown-Hill* and the City of *Bath*; and for amending ſeveral other Roads leading from *Briſtol*, and other Places, to *Bath*; and for *cleanſing*, *paving*, and *enlightening* the STREETS, and regulating the CHAIRMEN there; and for keeping a regular nightly WATCH, within the ſaid City and Liberties: all which, when effected according to the Intention of the Act, will be a great Conveniency to *Bath*, and to Perſons reſorting to it.

I will juſt mention alſo, that, at *Philips-Norton-lane*, near *Bath*, was a Fight between the Forces of King *James* II. and thoſe of the Duke of *Monmouth*, in which the latter had the Advantage, and, if they had purſued it, would have gained a complete Victory. An old Elm-tree, ſtanding near *Stanton-Drew*, about eight Miles Weſtward of *Bath*, in a Road leading three Ways, afforded a ſad Teſtimony of the Event of the Duke's Enterprize; for it was all overſpread with the Heads and Limbs of the unfortunate Perſons engaged in his Cauſe, who ſuffered by the Sentence of the mercileſs *Jefferies*.

This is the *Stanton-Drew*, where the *Druidical* Temple, mentioned among the Works in *Cornwall*, is ſituated: and, by the brief Account which Mr. *Wood* gives of it, in his Eſſay towards a Deſcription of *Bath*, and the *Britiſh* Works in its Neighbourhood, it appears to be a ſtupendous Model of the *Pythagorean* Syſtem of the planetary World, built with great Blocks of Marble taken out of *Clay-hole* near *Wells*. Three Circles, repreſenting the Sun, the Earth, and the Moon; and ſome other Stones, repreſenting the Planets *Venus*, *Jupiter*, and *Saturn*; are yet remaining: and the Author concludes, that the Circles

imaging

imaging the Sun and Moon were made uſe of as Temples, in Honour of thoſe Luminaries; the leaſt of which Temples is as big as *Stonehenge*.

About *Twyfordton*, not far from *Bath*, is a fallow Field, called *Marſbury-field*, with but little Quantity of Earth upon the Rock. This was very full of foſſile Shells, which had preſerved their natural Colour of Blue and White as perfectly as at firſt.

In *Chu* Pariſh, a Mile from *Stanton-Drew*, is *Bowditch*, ſo called from its circular Form; it was a large Camp on an Hill, trebly fortified, whence you may behold the Iſles of *Flatholm* and *Steepholm* in the Sea. Here is a petrefying Spring. This Country abounds with Coal-pits. The Slates, which lie upon it, and have not received their due Quantity of Sulphur, ſo as to make perfect Coal, are moſt curiouſly marked with Impreſſions of Plants, particularly thoſe of Fern. This is indeed a Rock, full of Springs, a very bad Road for Traveling, conſiſting of ſhort and ſteep Valleys, narrow Lanes, intricate, dark, and hard. The Ground is very rich, and bears much Wood. The Neatneſs of the Houſes, even of the poorer Sort of People, is remarkable, being generally whited over, and imbelliſhed with little Gardens.

We come in ſix Miles from *Bath* to *Cainſham*, a Market-town, famous for its Abbey, founded by *William* Earl of *Glouceſter*, about the Year 1170. and granted by *Edward* VI. to *Thomas Bridges*, Eſq; in the Year 1553. as well as for its having been the Manſion or capital Seat of the *Cangi*, as *Camden* interprets the Name. The Town is ſituated by the Side of a ſmall River, that runs into the *Avon*, and extends to the Confluence of the two Streams. It is built upon a Rock, productive of an infinite Number of Foſſils in the Shape of Serpents, coiled up like a Rope; and credulous People formerly believed, that they were real Serpents, changed into Stones by one *Keina*,

Keina, a devout *Britiſh* Virgin, from whom they likewiſe denominated the Town.

Cainſham River is noted for producing Multitudes of little Eels in the Spring of the Year: theſe the People catch, when they are about two Inches long; and, having boiled them, they make them into ſmall Cakes, for Sale. Theſe Elver-cakes they diſpoſe of at *Bath* and *Briſtol*; and, when they are fried, and eaten with Butter, nothing is more delicious.

The City of *Briſtol* is no more than four Miles from this Town; and is the greateſt, the richeſt, and the beſt Port of Trade in *Great Britain*, *London* only excepted.

Briſtol has been formerly a Place of Strength, and had a Caſtle, in which King *Stephen* was kept Priſoner ſome time by *Maud* the Empreſs. It was beſieged in the Civil Wars, and made a good Defence.

The Caſtle, built by *Robert*, illegitimate Son of King *Henry* I. who beſieged King *Stephen* in it, ſtood till the Time of *Oliver Cromwell*, who demoliſhed it.

It is a County-town, and one of King *Henry* the Eighth's new Biſhopricks.

The Merchants of this City have not only the greateſt Trade, but they trade with a more intire Independency upon *London*, than any other Town in *Britain*. And 'tis evident in this Particular, *viz.* That whatſoever Exportations they make to any Part of the World, they are able to bring the full Returns back to their own Port, and can diſpoſe of them there; which is not the Caſe of any other Port in *England*; where they are often obliged either to ſhip Part of the Effects in the Ports abroad, on the Ships bound to *London*; or to conſign their own Veſſels to *London*, in order both to get Freight, and diſpoſe of their own Cargoes.

But the *Briſtol* Merchants, as they have a very great Trade abroad, ſo they have always Buyers at home

home for their Returns, and ſuch Buyers, that no Cargo is too big for them. To this Purpoſe, the Shopkeepers in *Briſtol*, who in general are Wholeſale-men, have ſo great an Inland-trade among all the Weſtern Counties, that they maintain Carriers, juſt as the *London* Tradeſmen do, to all the principal Countries and Towns, from *Southampton* in the South, even to the Banks of the *Trent*, North; altho' they have no navigable River that Way.

Add to this, That, as well by Sea, as by the Navigation of two great Rivers, the *Wye* and the *Severn*, they have the whole Trade of *South-Wales*, as it were, to themſelves, and, the greateſt Part of that of *North-Wales*; and as to their Trade to *Ireland*, it is prodigiouſly increaſed ſince the Revolution, notwithſtanding the great Trade which of late the Merchants of *Liverpool* alſo drive with that Kingdom.

The greateſt Inconveniencies of *Briſtol* are its Situation, its narrow Streets, and the Narrowneſs of its River: and we might mention alſo another *Narrow*; that is, the *Minds* of the Generality of its People; for the Merchants of *Briſtol*, tho' very rich, are not like the Merchants of *London*: the latter may be ſaid (as of old of the Merchants of *Tyre*) to vie with the Princes of the Earth; whereas the former, being raiſed by good Fortune, and Prizes taken in the Wars, from Maſters of Ships, and blunt Tars, have imbibed the Manners of theſe rough Gentlemen ſo ſtrongly, that they tranſmit it to their Deſcendents, only with a little more of the Sordid, than is generally to be found among the *Britiſh* Sailors; and I would adviſe the rich ones among them, if they would be a little more polite and generous than they uſually are, to *travel*, but not out of *England* neither; I mean only to *London* (that is, from the ſecond great Trading-town to the firſt); and they will

will ſee Examples worth their Imitation, as well for princely Spirit, as upright and generous Dealings.

The Corporation being very tenacious in not admitting Perſons to trade in their Liberty, who are not Freemen, there are not ſo many new Buildings, and Improvements of Streets, &c. at *Briſtol*, as would otherwiſe be. As for the City itſelf, there is hardly Room to ſet another Houſe in it. The great Square, called *Queen's*, formerly the *Marſh*, where the Ground was ſubject to the Hazard of Inundations, is now ſo raiſed, that it is free from that Inconvenience: it is very handſomely built and inhabited, and a fine equeſtrian Statue of King *William* III. erected in the Middle of it, done by the famous *Ryſbrack*.

The Quay along the River *Frome* is very noble, and well filled with all Sorts of Merchandize; and an handſome Row of Houſes fronts it. I was informed, when I was there laſt, that, in order to make the Back of this City, or Quay along the River *Avon*, more commodious than ever, the Corporation have purchaſed ſeveral Houſes adjoining to the Back-gate in order to pull them down, and make all ſluſh, from the Conduit on the Back, clear round to the other Quay; which, when finiſhed, will be one of the completeſt Harbours in *Europe*. The whole Quay is reckoned the longeſt in *England*. It has a Crane on it, the Workmanſhip of the late ingenious Mr. *Padmore*, above-mentioned, which is not to be equaled in *Europe*. The Merchants are greatly benefited by it, in the extraordinary Diſpatch it gives to the diſcharging of their Ships.

Briſtol High-Croſs was erected in 1373. and, in ſucceeding Times, was adorned with the Statues of four Kings, who had been Benefactors to the City. Theſe faced the four adjoining Streets; that of King *John*, Northward; King *Henry* III. Eaſtward; King

King *Edward* III. Weſtward; and King *Edward* IV. Southward. In 1633. it was taken down, inlarged, and raiſed higher; when four other Statues were added; namely, King *Henry* VI. Eaſtward; Queen *Elizabeth*, Weſtward; King *James* I. Southward; and King *Charles* I. Northward. It was at the ſame time invironed with Iron Paliſadoes, gilded, and painted. Its Height 39 Feet 6 Inches.

College-green is deemed the healthieſt Situation in the City.

There is erected within theſe few Years an Aſſembly-room, for Entertainment and Amuſement of the Gay, as at other conſiderable Places; for Luxury muſt always follow Riches. It is an handſome Building, and ſtands in the Way from the City to the *Hot-well*.

The old Theatre at *Stokes-croft* is alſo altered into a commodious Room for an Aſſembly, which is held every *Tueſday* during the Winter.

On *Aug.* 25. 1747. happened here a violent Storm of Thunder, Lightning, and Rain; and, what was very ſurpriſing, the Buſhes on the Hill behind the Houſes at the Lime-kiln, leading to the *Hot-well*, were ſeen to be ſuddenly on fire; and continued burning after the Storm, tho' it rained violently. It is ſuppoſed they were ſet on fire by the Lightning, which ruſhed down in a wonderful manner. The Northern Meteor was extraordinarily luminous, ſending forth its ſwift Coruſcations of pale Light, which ſeemed to riſe from the Horizon in a pyramidical, undulating Form, ſtriking with great Velocity up the Zenith.

There were, when I was at *Briſtol*, no leſs than fifteen Glaſs-houſes in it; which is more than are in the City of *London:* they uſe indeed, themſelves, a very great Number of Glaſs Bottles, which they ſend filled with Beer, Cyder, and Wine, to the

Weſt-

Weſt-Indies, much more than goes from *London*; alſo vaſt Numbers of Bottles are now uſed for ſending the Water of *St. Vincent*'s Rock, not only all over *England*, but, we may ſay, all over the World.

This *Hot-well*, or Water of *St. Vincent*'s Rock, is two Miles without the City, a Mile below the Confluence of the two little Rivers, and on the North-ſide of the Stream of the *Avon*. Not many Years ſince, this Spring lay open at the Foot of the Rock, and was covered by the Salt-water at every Tide; and yet it preſerved both its Warmth and Virtue intire.

The Rock, tho' hard to Admiration, has ſince that been work'd down, partly by Labour, and partly blown in Pieces by Gunpowder; and an handſome large Houſe is built upon it, where they have good Apartments for entertaining diſtempered Perſons. The Well is ſecured, and a good Pump is fixed in it, ſo that they have the Water pure and unmixed from the Spring itſelf, and they export vaſt Quantities; for this Water keeps its Virtue better than that of *Bath*.

The following curious Account of the *Briſtol* Waters, I am indebted for to the ſame eminent Phyſician, who favoured me with the learned Account of the Nature and Efficacy of the *Bath* and *Tunbridge* Waters:

'The *Briſtol* Waters,' ſays he, 'ſeem only a 'natural Lime-water, or pure Element impregnated 'with a natural unburnt Lime-ſtone. All the Hills 'and Mountains round that Water are nothing but 'a Quarry of natural unburnt Lime-ſtone, which is 'daily dug up there for Building, and manifeſts it-'ſelf to the Senſes. This makes theſe *Briſtol* Wa-'ters, one of the pureſt, beſt, and moſt ſalutary, 'mere aqueous Elements on the Globe, to cool all 'overheated Bowels, and to leſſen all preternatural

'Diſ-

'Diſcharges. But the ſmall *Milk-warmth* in them, 'when immediately pumped up, upon the Well's 'being drained of the Influx of the Tide, ſhews 'there is ſome other Principle in them beſides natu-'ral Lime-ſtone: and that in Nature can be no other 'than ſome weak Impregnation of Sulphur with Ni-'tre or Sea-ſalt, or perhaps a ſlight Touch of Iron. 'The Stones are ſome reddiſh, ſome blackiſh, that 'are digged out of the Mountains circumjacent, but 'all of them natural Limeſtone. Theſe reddiſh and 'blackiſh Colours in the Stones neceſſarily imply 'Sulphur and Iron; and theſe three Principles, by 'chemical Proceſſes and Mixtures, are diſcovered in 'ſome ſmall Proportion in the Waters. They are 'excellent in all ſcorbutic and nervous Atrophies, 'in Hectics, weak Lungs, all Inflammations in 'whatever Part, all preternatural Evacuations; in 'ſhort, in all acrid Juices and viſcid Blood, being 'a natural ſimple *Alcali*; and in the firſt Stages of a '*Phthiſis Pulmonum*; and if early had recourſe to, 'and long continued, under a low, cooling, nutri-'tive Regimen, they would probably ſtop the Growth 'and Cauſes of moſt chronical Diſtempers.'

A little farther than the Wells, are a fine Dock, capable of containing 150 Ships, and a Baſin; but the largeſt Ships lie moſtly at *Hungroad*, four Miles below the City.

There are 17 Pariſhes in the City, but 19 Churches, including the Cathedral and the Church of St. *Mark*. There are, beſides thoſe Churches, ſeveral Meeting-houſes, for the different Sectaries, *viz*. Independents, Quakers, and Baptiſts.

The Cathedral is far from extraordinary.

Several of the Churches are very neat, beautifully decorated, and worthy a Traveler's Attention. That of *St. Mary Radcliffe*, or *Redcliff*, is a noble and

and ſtately Edifice. It is very large and ſpacious, and has a fine Steeple or Tower.

In it is a very antient Monument for Mr. *William Cannings*, Burgeſs and Merchant of *Briſtol*, the Founder of the Church, and a great Benefactor otherwiſe to the City of *Briſtol*.

On one Part of the Monument is a *Latin* Inſcription, full of Abbreviations; and, on the other Side, in *Engliſh*, an Inſcription to his Praiſe, which I have not Room to inſert.

Here is alſo an Inſcription on the Monument of Sir *William Penn*, Knt. Vice-Admiral of *England*, the Father of the great *William Penn*, one of the Heads of the Quakers, who was a Native of the City of *Briſtol*.

The Government is adminiſtred by a Mayor and 12 Aldermen, of which the Recorder is always one, two Sheriffs, and 28 Common-councilmen.

A great Face of Seriouſneſs and Religion appears at *Briſtol*, and the Magiſtrates are laudably ſtrict in exacting the Obſervation of the Sabbath, conſidering the general Diſſoluteneſs that has broken in almoſt every-where elſe.

One thing they deſerve high Commendation for; and that is the Neatneſs obſerved in keeping their Churches, and the Care they take in preſerving the Monuments and Inſcriptions of thoſe buried in them. A Practice ſcandalouſly neglected almoſt every-where elſe in *England*, and even at Places we might mention, where Money (another ſcandalous Practice) is exacted for ſeeing them. This Care of the Monuments of the Dead brings many Viſitors to their Churches of traveling Strangers, who are always pleaſed with it, and make Compariſons in its Favour, tho' very little to the Credit of ſome others, who are more negligent. 'Tis indeed ſtrange, that the Heirs and Families of the Deceaſed ſhould not think themſelves

ſelves more concerned, than they generally are, to keep up the Monuments of their Anceſtors. With great Piety, and at a large Expence, the next Heir, or the moſt obliged, rears a Monument to the Deceaſed, and it is dedicated, too, profeſſedly, to Poſterity. In a very little while, the Monument is covered with Duſt and Cobwebs, and the Inſcription often effaced. Common Decency does not ſucceed to this Piety, and it becomes a Monument of the Ingratitude or Neglect of the Survivors, rather than an Honour to the Deceaſed.

Methinks Vanity alone, the common Inducement to theſe Erections, ſhould inſpire another Manner of Acting. I cannot account for it any other way, but that, from the Prince to the Peaſant, as a Family generally lies together in one Vault or Tomb, very few are willing to ſee or think of their Coffins; and hence it is, that ſome Men often look upon their very Heirs as *Memento Mori's*. Unhappy Narrowneſs of Mind, equally to be lamented and deſpiſed!

Briſtol is ſuppoſed to have 9000 Houſes, and 70,000 Inhabitants, in the City, and within 3 Miles of its Circumference; and, they ſay, above 3000 Sail of Ships belong to that Port.

'Tis very remarkable, that this City is ſo well ſupplied with Coals, that tho' they are all brought by Land-carriage, yet they are generally laid down at the Doors of the Inhabitants, at ſeven, eight, or nine Shillings *per* Chaldron.

The Situation of the City is low, but on the Side of a riſing Hill. The Ground-plat of it is ſaid very much to reſemble that of old *Rome*, being circular, with a ſomething greater Diameter one way than another, but enough to make it oval; and the River cutting off one ſmall Part, as it were, a ſixth, or leſs, from the reſt.

The Bridge over the *Avon* is exceeding ſtrong, the Arches very high, becauſe of the Depth of Water, and the Buildings ſo cloſe upon it, that, in paſſing the Bridge, you ſee nothing but an intire full-built Street. The Tide of Flood riſes here near ſix Fathom, and runs very ſtrong.

They draw all their heavy Goods here on *Sleds*, or *Sledges*, which they call *Gee-hoes*, without Wheels. This kills a Multitude of Horſes; and the Pavement is worn ſo ſmooth by them, that in wet Weather the Streets are very ſlippery, and in froſty Weather 'tis dangerous walking.

The noble Charities of Mr. *Edward Colſton*, a worthy Merchant of *Briſtol*, and his Foundations, are an Honour to the Place, and to the Memory of that excellent Man: and I am ſorry, that my narrow Limits will not permit me to give a particular Account of them.

But I ought not to omit, that one of his Charities only coſt him 25,000 *l.* and that is the noble Hoſpital or Alms-houſe erected by him, in the Year 1691. upon his own Ground, on *St. Michael's-Hill*. The Front and two Sides are faced with Freeſtone: it contains a Chapel neatly adorned, 24 Apartments, and other Conveniencies, for 12 Men and 12 Women. The elder Brother receives 6 *s.* and each of the others 3 *s.* weekly, beſides an Allowance for Coal, *&c.* To a Clergyman is paid the Sum of 10 *l.* yearly, for reading the *Common Prayer* twice every Day, except when Prayers are read in *St. Michael's* Church, at which every Member of this Alms-houſe is to attend.

In the Year 1696. he alſo purchaſed a Piece of Ground in *Temple-ſtreet*, and built at his own Charge a School and Dwelling-houſe, for a Maſter to inſtruct 40 Boys, in Writing, Arithmetic, and the Church Catechiſm. The Boys are likewiſe to be cloathed.

His

His other Charities and Benefactions were without Number.

On St. *Peter*'s Day, *June* 29. 1738. was opened at the Mint an Infirmary for this City, for the Reception of the ſick, lame, and diſtreſſed Poor, after the Example of thoſe in *London*, *Wincheſter*, &c. It is denominated *St. Peter's Hoſpital*, and very liberal Contributions have been made to it; and particularly, we are told, that *John Elbridge*, Eſq; Comptroller of the Cuſtoms in this City, who died *February* 1738-9. with many other charitable Donations, bequeathed 5000 *l.* to this Infirmary, beſides endowing a Charity-ſchool on *St. Michael's Hill*, which he built ſeveral Years before his Death, for educating and cloathing a certain Number of poor Girls.

Large Pieces of Ground having been cleared for building a magnificent Exchange, and proper Markets behind it; the former (which is called *The Tolzey*) to front Northward to *Corn-ſtreet*, and the latter to be entered principally from *High-ſtreet*; on the 10th of *March* 1740-1. the firſt Stone of the Work was laid by the Mayor, with great Ceremony, with ſeveral Pieces of Gold and Silver Coin under it, and this Inſcription on the Stone:

Regnante GEORGIO II. *Pio, Felici, Auguſto, Libertatis & Rei Mercatoriæ Domi Foriſque Vindice, primarium Lapidem hujuſce Ædificii, Suffragio Civium, & Ære publico extructi, poſuit* HENRICUS COMBE, *Prætor, A. C.* MDCCXL.

That is,

In the Reign of GEORGE II. Pious, Proſperous, Auguſt, Vindicator, at Home and Abroad, of Liberty and Trade, HENRY COMBE, Mayor, placed the firſt Stone of this Structure, erected by the Votes of the Citizens, and at the public Expence, *A. D.* 1740.

This Edifice was opened with greater Ceremony on the 23d of *September*, 1743. and is eſteemed the compleateſt of its kind in *Europe*. The Architect of it having given the Public an ample Deſcription of the Building, illuſtrated with the Plans, Elevations, and Sections of it, we muſt refer the Reader to that Book, which is ſold by Mr. *Leake* in *Bath*, and Mr. *Hitch* in *London*, for Particulars; and in general only obſerve, that the Work, together with the Purchace of the Ground, and old Buildings deſtroyed, coſt the Corporation near 50,000 *l.* a Work, which the whole City for Ages paſt endeavoured to get accompliſhed; and, when perfected ſo as to obtain the univerſal Approbation of Strangers, the Corporation had no ſooner preſented the trading Part of the City with the free Uſe of it, than the Body of the People ſhewed a greater Inclination to the common Street; where, to their Shame, and juſt Reproach, they now aſſemble, mixing themſelves with the Refuſe of the City, and looking like ſuch as dare not appear in the Exchange among the moſt reputable Merchants: they ſtand expoſed, like the Bankrupts expelled from the Exchanges in other Countries; and Foreigners, whoſe Curioſity leads them to *Briſtol* to view the Building, often take them to be ſuch. The City ſends two Members to Parliament.

The old Library in *King-ſtreet* is rebuilt in a very handſome Manner, as is alſo *Merchant-Taylors-Hall* in *Broad-ſtreet*, a Freeſtone Building near 70 Feet long, and Breadth proportionable.

From hence I had Thoughts of coaſting theMarſhes or Border of *Wales*, eſpecially *South-Wales*, by tracing the Rivers *Wye* and *Lug*, in *Monmouth* and *Hereford-ſhire*: but changed my Mind on occaſion of the Danger of the Ferries over the *Severn*. In the mean time, I reſolved to follow the Courſe of this famous River, by which I ſhould neceſſarily ſee the richeſt, moſt

moſt fertile, and moſt agreeable Part of *England*, the Banks of the *Thames* only excepted.

From *Briſtol*, Weſt, you enter the County of *Glouceſter*, and keeping the *Avon* in View, you ſee *King-Road*, where the Ships generally take their Departure, as ours at *London* do from *Graveſend*, and *Hung-Road*; and where they notify their Arrival, as ours for *London* do in the *Downs*. The one lies within the *Avon*, the other in the *Severn Sea*. Indeed great Part of *Briſtol* is in the Bounds of *Glouceſterſhire*, tho' it be a County of itſelf. From hence going away a little North-weſt, we come to the *Pill*, a convenient Road for Shipping, and where therefore they generally run back for *Ireland*, or for *Wales*. There is alſo, a little farther, an ugly, dangerous, and very inconvenient Ferry over the *Severn*, to the Mouth of the *Wye*; namely, at *Auſt*; which I ſhall mention again preſently.

As we turn North towards *Glouceſter*, we loſe the Sight of the *Avon*, and, in about two Miles, exchange it for an open View of the *Severn Sea*, which you ſee on the Weſt Side, and which ſeems as broad as the Ocean there; except that there are two ſmall Iſlands in it, and that looking N. W. you diſcern plainly the Coaſt of *South-Wales*; and particularly, a little nearer hand, the Shore of *Monmouthſhire*. Then, as you go on, the Shores begin to draw towards one another, and the Coaſts to lie parallel; ſo that the *Severn* appears to be a plain River, or an *Æſtuarium*, ſomewhat like the *Humber*, or as the *Thames* is at the *Nore*, being from 4 to 5 and 6 Miles over; and is indeed a moſt raging and furious kind of Sea. This is occaſioned by thoſe violent Tides called the *Bore*, which flow here ſometimes ſix or ſeven Feet at once, rolling forward like a mighty Wave, ſo that the Stern of a Veſſel ſhall on a ſudden be lifted up ſix or ſeven

Feet upon the Water, when the Head of it is faſt aground.

After coaſting the Shore about four Miles farther, the Road being by the low Salt-marſhes kept at a Diſtance from the River, we came to *Auſt* Ferry, from a little dirty Village called *Auſt*; near which you come to take Boat.

This Ferry lands you at *Beachly* in *Monmouthſhire*; ſo that on the one Side it is called *Auſt Paſſage*, and on the other Side *Beachly Paſſage*. From whence you go by Land two little Miles to *Chepſtow*, a large Port-town on the River *Wye*. But of that Port I ſhall ſay more in its Place.

Here is a good neat Chapel, with an high Tower at the Weſt End, adorned with Pinacles.

This Place is memorable from a Circumſtance in the Reign of King *Edw.* I. who, being here, invited *Lewellin* Prince of *Wales*, who was on the other Side, to come over and confer with him, and ſettle ſome Matters in Diſpute between them; but the Prince refuſed, and the King thereupon croſs'd over to him, who, in a Rapture of Generoſity, leaped into the Water, to receive the King in his Boat, telling him, His Humility had conquered his Pride, and his Wiſdom triumphed over his Folly.

When we came to *Auſt*, the hither Side of the Paſſage, the Sea was ſo broad, the Fame of the *Bore* of the Tide ſo formidable, the Wind alſo made the Water ſo rough, and, which was worſe, the Boats to carry over both Man and Horſe appeared ſo very mean, that, in ſhort, none of us cared to venture; but came back, and reſolved to keep on the Road to *Glouceſter*.

Thornbury is a Market-town, and hath a cuſtomary Mayor and 12 Aldermen, and was given in the Conqueror's Time to the famous *Fitz-Hammon*. Here are the Foundations of a large Caſtle, deſigned, but never

never finiſhed, by the Duke of *Buckingham*, in King *Henry* VIII.'s Time. Here is a ſpacious Church, built Cathedral-wiſe; it has fine wide Iſles, and three Chancels, with an high and beautiful Tower. Here are a Free-ſchool and four Alms-houſes.

On the Right lies *Wotton*, a pretty Market-town, governed by a Mayor elected annually at the Court-Leet. 'Tis famous for its Clothing-trade. The Church, which is a Vicarage, is large, and hath two wide Iſles, and an high handſome Tower, adorned with Battlements and Pinacles. There are in it divers Tombs, Monuments, and Inſcriptions, chiefly for the Family of *Berkley*. Here are a Free-ſchool and ſome Charity-houſes.

Directly North of this Town lies *Durſley*, a good Clothing and Market-town, governed by a Bailiff and four Conſtables; and has been formerly noted for ſharp, over-reaching People; from whence aroſe a proverbial Saying of a tricking Man, *He is a Man of* Durſley. The Church is good, hath two Iſles, and an handſome Spire.

Turning North-weſt, we came to *Berkley*, a noted Town, ſo called from *Berk*, a Beech, and *Leas*, Paſture. It is the largeſt Pariſh in the County, and conſiſts of rich Meadow-grounds, and above 30 Pariſhes depend on this Manor, for which a Fee-farm Rent was paid, in King *Henry* II.'s Time, of 500 *l.* 17 *s.* 2 *d.* which ſhews the vaſt Extent and Value of this Eſtate. It belongs to the preſent Earl of *Berkley*, who is alſo Baron of *Durſley*. Adjoining to this Town is the ſtrong Caſtle of *Berkley*, a magnificent, tho' antique, Building, and the antient Seat of this noble Family, from whence it derives its Name as well as Title, ever ſince the Time of King *Henry* II. who gave it to *Robert Fitzharding*, who aſſumed the Name of *Berkley*, and from whom the preſent Earl

is lineally deſcended. King *Edw.* II. of *England*, as all our learned Writers agree, was murdered in this Caſtle; as King *Richard* II. was in that of *Pontefract* in *Yorkſhire*; but I refer to our Hiſtories for theſe horrid Facts. They ſhew the Apartments, where they ſay that King was kept a Priſoner: but they do not admit, that he was killed there. The Place is rather antient, than pleaſant or healthful, lying low, and near the Water. Here is a large, ſpacious Church, with an Iſle on each Side, and a Chapel adjoining, which is the Burial-place of the Family, a neat Veſtry, and a ſtrong high Tower.

On the Right of the Road is *Stanley*, a little Market-town, where was formerly a Priory, the Ruins whereof appear ſtill. The Church is built in the Form of a Croſs, with a Tower in the Middle.

A noble Improvement has been made in theſe Parts; for the Earl of *Berkley* has lately finiſhed a great Bulwark at *Frampton* upon *Severn*, near this Place, called *Hock-Crib*, the Deſign of which is to inforce the River *Severn*, by *Art's-Point*, into its former Chanel. It is ſaid his Lordſhip intends to build another, four Miles below the former, by which he will undoubtedly gain a large Tract of Land, contiguous to what is called the *New Grounds*, inferior to none in *England* for the Richneſs of its Soil.

From *Frampton* the flowing Tide runs in a ſtrait Line for about four Miles in Length Weſtward, with ſuch Rapidity, that, on its reaching the Foot of an Hill, on the left Side of the antient Foreſt of *Dean*, and turning round to the Northward, it gathers into an Head, that looks like an high Weir acroſs the River's Breadth; bearing every-thing before it, till it comes to *Newnham's Nob*; a natural Bulwark, which turns the Torrent ſo to the Eaſtward, that,

when

when it reaches the North of *Frampton*, the Land between the two Parts of the River is but about a Mile in Breadth.

Newnham is an antient Town-Corporate, the Sword of State being ſtill preſerved there, which King *John* gave them with their Charter; and the Place is remarkable for its having been the firſt Fortification that was raiſed on the other Side of the *Severn* againſt the *Welſh*; for its having been the Manor by which the great Place of High Conſtable of *England* was held down to the Execution of *Edward Stafford* Duke of *Buckingham*, on the 17th of *May* 1521. and for its having given Riſe to the Art of making Glaſs in *England*; the Remains of the firſt Glaſs-houſes that were erected in the Kingdom being ſtill to be ſeen here. The Town conſiſts of little more than one long Street running North and South, and built upon the high Shore of the *Severn*. It has a Vale on the Back of it, and is defended on that Side with a great Bank of Earth, which makes the moſt agreeable Terrace-walk. The Extremity of the Town Southward, being the higheſt Part of it, is adorned with a beautiful Houſe and Garden, which belonged to *Thomas Cromp*, Eſq; lately deceaſed, from whence you have a full View of the whole ſemi-elliptical Part of the River. The Extremity of it Northward, being the loweſt Part, is adorned with an handſome Houſe and Garden, belonging to Mr. *Thomas Trigg*, an eminent Attorney at Law: and, there being a common Ferry here over the *Severn*, a ſpacious Road running Weſtward, and lately repaired at the Expence of his Majeſty, leads from the Town to the Foreſt.

This Foreſt once contained 30,000 Acres of Land, being 20 Miles long, and ſo full of Wood, that it was very dangerous to travel thro' it. Its Oak was famous for Shipping, the Glory of our own, and ſo

much the Envy of other Nations, that the famous *Spaniſh Armada* had it in ſpecial Charge to burn it. The great Number of Iron Forges near it has greatly leſſened, tho' not conſumed, the Wood, which is ſtill preſerved with much Care. It is ſubject to Foreſt-Laws; and the Iron-Miners have here a Court alſo.

From hence to *Glouceſter*, we ſee nothing conſiderable, but a moſt fertile, rich Country, and a fine River, but narrower, as you go Northward, till, a little before we come to *Glouceſter*, it ceaſes to be navigable by Ships of Burden, but continues to be ſo, by large Barges, above an hundred Miles farther, not reckoning the Turnings and Windings of the River: beſides that it receives ſeveral large and navigable Rivers into it.

Glouceſter (called by the *Britons*, *Caer-glow*, i. e. *Fine City*, and, in Imitation of it, *Glevum*, by the *Romans*) abounds much with Croſſes and Statues of the Kings of *England*, and has an handſome Proſpect of Steeples, ſome without a Church; for, in the late Civil Wars, when it held out vigorouſly againſt King *Charles* I. and was then very ſtrong, it ſuffer'd much; for its 11 Churches were then reduced to five, and all its Walls and Works were demoliſhed. The City is ſtill tolerably built; and here is a large Stone Bridge over the *Severn*, the firſt next the Sea. Here are ſeveral Market-houſes ſupported with Pillars, one a very old one of Stone, in *Gothic* Architecture, antient and uncommon, now turned into a Ciſtern for Water.

The old Proverb, *As ſure as God's at* Glouceſter, certainly alluded to the vaſt Number of Churches and religious Foundations here; for you can ſcarce walk paſt ten Doors, but ſomewhat of that ſort occurs.

The Cathedral is an old venerable Pile, built by Biſhop *Aldred*, afterwards Archbiſhop of *York*. The

Weſtern Part is old and mean; but from the Tower, which is very handſome, you have a moſt glorious Proſpect Eaſtward, thro' the Choir, finely vaulted at Top; and the Ladies Chapel to the Eaſt Window, which is very magnificent. On the North-ſide lies that unfortunate King *Edward* II. in an Alabaſter Tomb, and, out of the Abundance of pious Offerings to his Remains, the Religious built this Choir; and the Votaries to his Shrine, for ſome time after his Death, could hardly find Room in the Town. So changeable are the Tempers of Men! and ſo little a Space is required to diſpoſe the Minds of the fluctuating Many, to *Hoſannah* or *Crucify!*

Before the High Altar in the Middle of the Church, lies the equally unfortunate Prince *Robert*, eldeſt Son of the Conqueror, after a miſerable Life for many Years before his Death. But his Monument remains, and his Bones are at Reſt; which is more than can be ſaid of the Monument of his younger Brother King *Henry* I. who, as the ſecond Brother *William Rufus* had done, robbed him of his Right; and no Traces of his Monument are left at *Reading-Abbey*, where he was buried with his Queen. He lies in a wooden Tomb, with his Coat of Arms painted, and upon it his Effigies in *Iriſh* Oak, croſs-legged like a *Jeruſalem* Knight. The famous *Strongbow*, who ſubdued *Ireland*, lies buried in the Chapter-houſe.

The Cloiſters in this Cathedral are exquiſitely beautiful, in the Style of the Chapel of *King's-College, Cambridge*. There are large Remains in the City, of Abbeys of Black and White Friers. A Mile or two diſtant is *Robin Hood*'s Hill, as it is called, which affords now a pleaſant Walk for the Citizens, and from which they are attempting to ſupply the City with Water, which it much wants. By this City, the *Rickning* Way runs from the *Severn*'s Mouth into *Yorkſhire*.

The Inhabitants boaſt much of the Antiquity of their firſt Cathedral, which they pretend had Biſhops and Preachers here *Anno* 189: the *firſt* Cathedral; I ſay; for, it has been, as reported, thrice deſtroyed by Fire.

William the Conqueror gave this City and Caſtle to the famous *Robert Fitz-Hammon*, afterwards Lord of *Glamorgan*. *Edol*, one of the *Britiſh* Nobles, who attended King *Vortigern* to the Congreſs appointed by *Hengiſt*, was Earl of this Place. He was a Man of great perſonal Strength, and, ſeeing the *Saxons* drawing forth their concealed Weapons, he diſarmed one of them, and fought valiantly; but being overpowered by Numbers, he eſcaped to this City, after having killed, as they tell us, 70 *Saxons* with his own Hands. Afterwards, in a Battle fought againſt the *Saxons* near the River *Don*, he fixed his Eye upon *Hengiſt*, and never quitted him, till he took him Priſoner, and ſtruck off his Head.

In the little Iſle of *Alney*, near this Town, the famous ſingle Combat was fought between *Edmund Ironſide* and *Canute* the *Dane*, for the whole Kingdom, in Sight of both their Armies.

The City is governed by a Mayor, 12 Aldermen, and ſo many Common-councilmen, as, with the Mayor and Aldermen, exceed not the Number of 40, nor are fewer than 30. The Aldermen are Juſtices of the Peace; and two Sheriffs are annually choſen from them. It has alſo an High-Steward (who is uſually a Nobleman), a Recorder, and a Town-clerk. They are allowed the higheſt Marks of magiſtratical Honour, Scarlet Gowns, the Sword, and Cap of Maintenance, and four Serjeants at Mace. Here are 12 Companies, the Maſters whereof attend the Mayor on all public Occaſions in their Gowns, and with Streamers. It has a large Quay and Wharf on the River for Trade, and a Cuſtom-heuſe. Here is

alſo

alſo a Town-hall, for the Aſſizes and public Buſineſs, which they call the *Booth-hall*; and great Part of the Caſtle is ſtill ſtanding.

Glouceſter was made a Biſhoprick by King *Henry* VIII. who erected the Abbey-Church into a Cathedral, with a Dean and ſix Prebendaries.

The firſt Proteſtant Biſhop of this Church was that truly reverend and religious Divine, Dr. *John Hooper*, who was burnt to Death in the Cemetery of his own Cathedral, in the Reign of Queen *Mary*.

The Whiſpering-place in this Cathedral formerly paſſed for a kind of Wonder among the Vulgar; but ſince, Experience has taught the eaſily-comprehended Reaſon of the Thing; and there is now the like in the Church of *St. Paul*, *London*.

Here is great Proviſion for the Poor by Hoſpitals; particularly *Bartholomew's Hoſpital* maintains fifty-four Men and Women, to whom belong a Miniſter, Phyſician, and Surgeon. And Sir *Thomas Rich*, Bart. a Native of this Place, gave 6000 *l.* by Will, for a *Blue-coat* Hoſpital, wherein are educated 20 poor Boys; and 10 poor Men and 10 Women are maintained, and cloathed annually. Beſides theſe, and three more, there are many Benefactions to encourage young Tradeſmen, and place out Boys Apprentices. And they have lately erected an Infirmary here, after the laudable Example of that of *Wincheſter*, &c.

The City has, in antient Times as well as later, given the Titles of Earl and Duke to ſeveral of the Royal Family. The laſt Duke was that hopeful young Prince, Son to Queen *Anne*, who, to the exceſſive Regret of the Nation, died in his Minority.

Here are four Fairs held annually, on *March* 25. *June* 24. *Sept.* and *Nov.* 17. It is a County of itſelf, and ſends two Members to Parliament.

At *Laſſington*, near *Glouceſter*, are found certain Stones, about the Breadth of a Silver Peny, and Thickneſs of an Half-crown, called *Aſtroites*, or Star-ſtones, being fine-pointed like a Star, and flat. They are of a greyiſh Colour, and the flat Sides are naturally finely engraven, as it were. But I have taken notice of theſe *p.* 284.

From *Glouceſter* we kept Eaſtward, and ſoon came to *Cheltenham*, a Market-town, where is ſtill a pretty good Trade carried on in Malt, but not ſo conſiderable as formerly. Here is a good Church in the Form of a Croſs, with Iſles on each Side, and a Spire riſing in the Middle, noted for a good Ring of Bells. But what is more remarkable is, that the Miniſter is to be nominated by, and muſt be a Fellow of *Jeſus-College*, *Oxon* (tho' the Vicarage is but 40 *l.* a Year), but approved of by the Earl of *Gainſborough*; and he cannot hold it more than ſix Years. Here are a Free-ſchool, an Hoſpital, and ſome other Charities.

The Mineral Waters lately diſcovered at *Cheltonham*, which are of the *Scarborough* Kind, are what will make this Place ſtill more and more remarkable, and frequented. An eminent Phyſician has obliged me with the following Account of their Nature and Qualities:

'Theſe Waters, he obſerves, were firſt found 'out by the Flocks of all the neighbouring Pigeons 'going conſtantly thither to provoke their Appetites, 'as well as to quench the uncommon Thirſt of theſe 'ſalacious Birds. I have been informed, ſays he, 'by a Phyſician of Credit and Experience, who 'had made all the common Trials on them, and ob-'ſerved their Effects on many Perſons of various 'Conſtitutions, and in different Diſtempers, who 'had drank them, That, on Evaporation, they 'were found to contain, in a Gallon, eight Drachms 'of nitrous Salt, with two Drachms of an alcalious

'Earth:

'Earth: That they were compounded of a large 'Quantity of Nitre, to which they owed their purgative Virtue; a light Sulphur, which the fetid 'Dejections manifeſted; and a volatile Steel, diſcoverable by a tranſparent blue Colour, when mixed 'with an Infuſion of Nut-galls. Alcalious Spirits 'have no Effect on them; but they ferment with 'Acids. He further adds, That there might be 'found ſome other Materials in their Compoſition, 'perhaps, if more minutely examined and tortured: 'but that theſe mentioned Principles were evident 'and inconteſtable, and were ſufficient to account 'for all their Effects and Operation; the others (if 'there be any) being of little Efficacy. In the Operation, they empty the Bowels according to their 'Doſe, but gently, mildly, and eaſily, without 'Sickneſs, Nauſea, Gripes, or cauſing great Lowneſs, far beyond any artificial Purges whatſoever. 'They give a good Appetite, an eaſy Digeſtion, and 'quiet Nights, in all nephritic and gouty Caſes, 'when not under the Fit; in all rheumatic, ſcrophulous, ſcorbutic, or leprous Caſes; but eſpecially in ſpermatic, urinary, or hæmorrhoidal Caſes, 'he thinks them ſovereign, and not to be matched. 'In a word, in all inflammatory Caſes of whatever 'Kind, and whatever Part, he thinks them one of 'the moſt ſalutary Means which can be uſed. Thoſe 'of pretty ſtrong Nerves, and firm Conſtitutions, 'bear them with high Spirits, great Pleaſure, and 'Profit; but they do not at all ſuit with thoſe of weak 'Nerves, paralytic, hypochondriac, or hyſteric Diſorders, or thoſe who are ſubject to any kind of 'Fits, Cramps, or Convulſions: they ruffle ſuch 'too much, as generally all Purgatives do. He thinks 'they have a great Affinity to the *Scarborough* Waters, and might do great Cures in moſt chronical

'Diſtempers,

'Diſtempers, if Exerciſe, and a proper Regimen, 'were directed with them.'

Following the Road towards *Warwick* directly, we arrived at *Winchcomb*, a ſmall Market-town, ſituate in a Bottom, in the midſt of good Paſture and Arable Lands, but of no great Account. The Church is a good Building, hath two Iſles, a large Chancel, and a lofty Tower adorned with Battlements and Pinacles. It is remarkable, that it is a Curacy worth no more than 10*l.* a Year, tho' the Impropriation is worth 300*l.* annually. Here was formerly a very rich Abbey, whereof the Abbat was mitred, founded by *Offa* King of *Mercia*.

Here we turned from the Road, and ſtruck N.W. to *Tewkſbury*, encompaſſed with four Rivers; the *Avon* and *Carran* on the N. the *Severn* on the W. and the *Swyliate* on the S. 'Tis governed by two Bailiffs, and 24 Burgeſſes; and its Neighbourhood to *Cotſwold-Downs* makes the Clothing-trade flouriſh here. It is a large and very populous Town, ſituate upon the *Warwickſhire* River *Avon*, ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from the *Briſtol Avon*, and others. The Town was long famous for its Muſtard-balls, as alſo for a great Manufacture of Stockens; as are alſo *Campden* in this County, and *Perſhore* in *Worceſterſhire*.

The great old Church at *Tewkſbury* may be called one of the largeſt Churches in *England*, that is not Collegiate or Cathedral. It is very high, has two ſpacious Iſles, a ſtately Tower, and a large Chancel. The Communion-table is one intire Marble Stone near 14 Feet long, and three and an half broad.

The Town is famous for the deciſive Battle fought between the Houſes of *Lancaſter* and *York*, in the Reign of King *Edward* IV. of the latter Houſe, who was Conqueror. It ſends two Members to Parliament.

Glouceſterſhire muſt not be paſſed over, without

ſome Account of a pleaſant and fruitful Vale, which croſſes Part of the Country, from Eaſt to Weſt, on that Side of the *Cotſwold*, and which is called *Stroud-water*; famous not only for the fineſt Cloths, but for dying thoſe Cloths of the beautifuleſt Scarlets, and other grand Colours, that are any-where in *England*, perhaps in any Part of the World. Here I ſaw two Pieces of Broadcloth made, one Scarlet, the other Crimſon in Grain, which were ſent as Preſents, the one to the late King *George*, while Elector, and the other to his preſent Majeſty, which were very graciouſly accepted. The Cloth was valued at 45 *s. per* Yard, and was well worth it; for nothing ſo rich of that kind had ever been made in *England*, as I was informed.

The Clothiers lie all along the Banks of this River, for near 20 Miles, and in the Town of *Stroud*, which lies in the Middle of it, as alſo at *Paynſwick*, which I have mentioned *p.* 282. The River makes its way to the *Severn*, about five Miles below *Glouceſter*.

As *Tewkſbury* lies on the Borders of *Worceſterſhire*, we ſoon entered that County, and came to *Upton*, an antient Market-town of ſome Note upon the *Severn*, over which it has a good Bridge. *Roman* Coins are frequently dug up here.

On the Left, Weſtward of this Town, and which parts this County from that of *Hereford*, are *Malvern Hills*, which conſiſt of large Mountains, prodigiouſly high and lofty, gradually riſing one above another for about ſeven Miles together. On theſe Hills are two Villages, called *Great Malvern* and *Little Malvern*, at the Diſtance of about two Miles from each other, each having had formerly an Abbey of *Benedictines*, the laſt lying in a diſmal Cavity between the Hills. On the very Top of theſe Hills may be ſeen

the

the Ruins of a prodigious Ditch, which *Gilbert* Earl of *Glouceſter* dug, to ſeparate his Poſſeſſions from thoſe of the Church of *Hereford*. On theſe Hills are two medicinal Springs, called *Holy Wells*: one is good for the Eyes, and putrid, fetid Livers; and the other for Cancers.

From *Upton* we traveled N. E. and came to *Perſhore*, which lies on the lower *London* Road to *Worceſter*: it is ſaid to be ſo called from the great Number of Pear-trees, which thrive plentifully here. It is a pleaſant Market-town lying on the *Avon*, and famous for the Stocken-trade, mentioned *p.*328.

Eaſtward of this Town ſtands *Eveſham*, a Borough-town, ſituated on a gentle Aſcent from the ſame River, over which it hath a Bridge of ſeven ſtately Arches. It is an antient Mayor-town, and has the Privilege to try Felons. It is memorable for the deciſive Battle, wherein *Simon Montfort* and the Barons were defeated by Prince *Edward*, afterwards King *Edward* I. who thereby releaſed his Father out of Captivity. Here are two Churches, with ſmall Spire Steeples; but neither of them has any Bells, which have been removed to a famous Tower built by Abbat *Litchfield*, which ſtands near theſe Churches. This Borough returns two Members to Parliament.

All around this Town lies that fruitful and plentiful Country, called from this Place, *The Vale of Eveſham*, which runs all along the Banks of the *Avon*, from *Tewkſbury* to *Perſhore*, and to *Stratford* upon *Avon*, in the South Part of *Warwickſhire*; which River is ſo far navigable.

The Pariſh-church of *Stratford* is very old. In it we ſaw the Monument of the inimitable *Shakeſpeare*, whoſe dramatic Performances ſet him at the Head of the *Britiſh* Theatre, and will make him renowned to the End of Time. His Buſto is in the Wall on the North-

North-ſide of the Church, and a flat Grave-ſtone covers the Body, in the Iſle juſt under him; on which Grave-ſtone theſe Lines are written:

Good Friend, for Jeſus' *ſake, forbear*
To move the Duſt that reſteth here.
Bleſt be the Man that ſpares theſe Stones;
And curſt be he, that moves my Bones!

Over the *Avon* at *Stratford* is built a fair Stone Bridge of 14 Arches, with a long Cauſeway at the Weſt-end of it, walled on both Sides.

The Navigation of this River *Avon* is an exceeding Advantage to all this Part of the Country, and alſo to the Commerce of the City of *Briſtol*. For by this River they drive a very great Trade for Sugar, Oil, Wine, Tobacco, Iron, Lead, and, in a word, all heavy Goods, which are uſually carried by Water almoſt as far as *Warwick*; and, in return, the Corn, and eſpecially Cheeſe, are carried back from *Glouceſterſhire* and *Warwickſhire* to *Briſtol*; for *Glouceſter* Cheeſe is excellent of the kind, and this County drives a great Trade in it.

This Vale extending itſelf in *Warwickſhire*, and under the Ridge of little Mountains, called *Edge-hill*, is there called *The Vale of Red-horſe*. All the Grounds, put together, make a moſt pleaſant Corn Country, eſpecially remarkable for the Goodneſs of the Air, and Fertility of the Soil.

Not far from *Stratford*, on the Borders of this County of *Worceſter*, is *Alceſter*, a Market-town, much frequented by Dealers in Corn: it is of great Antiquity; as appears by old Foundations of Buildings made of *Roman* Brick, and Gold, Silver, and Braſs Coins found here. The old *Roman* Way, called *Ikenild-ſtreet*, paſſes thro' the Town.

From *Tewkſbury*, North, it is 12 Miles to *Worceſter*, along the Banks of the *Severn*, where I was wonder-

wonderfully delighted with the *Hedge-rows*, lined all the Way with Apple and Pear-trees, full of Fruit, and thoſe ſo common, that any Paſſengers, as they travel the Road, may gather and eat what they pleaſe. Here alſo, as well as in *Glouceſterſhire*, you meet with Cyder in the Public-houſes, ſold as Beer and Ale are in other Parts of *England*, and as cheap.

We ſaw at a Diſtance, in a moſt agreeable Situation, the Seat of Sir *Herbert Perrot Packington*, a Baronet of a very antient Family.

On the other Side of the *Severn*, at *Whitley-court*, five Miles from *Bewdly*, and ſeven from *Worceſter*, the Lord *Foley* has a Seat, ſituate in a large Park.

Worceſter, the *Branonium* of the *Romans*, ſeems to have been built by them to curb the *Silures* on the other Side of the *Severn*; and in Imitation of the *Roman* Name the *Britons* called it *Caer Wrangon*. It is ſituated in a Valley on the *Severn*, which, tho' generally rapid elſewhere, glides on here very gently. This City was burnt in 1091. by King *Hardicanute*, the Inhabitants having killed his Tax-gatherers. In 1080. *Roger de Montgomery* Earl of *Shrewſbury* burnt the Suburbs, and attacked the City; but the Citizens defended themſelves with ſo much Gallantry, that they repulſed their Enemies with a terrible Slaughter. In 1113. it was almoſt deſtroyed by an accidental Fire, the Caſtle intirely conſumed, and the Roof of the Cathedral damaged. In 1202. it was again burnt. It has ſuffered in all the Civil Wars; but the Weights by which it has been preſſed have only conduced to bend it into Form, and raiſe it, like the Palm-tree, to its preſent Beauty and Statelineſs: for it is a large, populous, well-built City, and the beſt paved in *England*. The *Foregate-ſtreet* is the moſt regular and beautiful that can be ſeen out of *London*. The *Guild-hall* is a very fine Building; but the Statues on the Outſide diſgrace it.

There

There is a good old Stone Bridge over the *Severn*, which ſtands exceeding high from the Surface of the Water, and has a Tower upon it, ſaid to be built by the *Romans*. But as the Stream of the *Severn* is contracted here by the Buildings on either Side, there is evident Occaſion ſometimes for the Height of the Bridge, the Waters riſing to an incredible Degree in the Winter-time.

The Commandery here, formerly belonging to *St. John's of Jeruſalem*, is now poſſeſſed by Mr. *Wylde*, and is a fine old Houſe of Timber, in the Form of a Court. The Hall, roofed with *Iriſh* Oak, makes one Side of it, built for the Reception of Pilgrims. The Windows are adorned with Imagery, and Coats Armorial of ſtained Glaſs. It ſtands juſt without the South Gate of the City in the *London* Road, where the Heat of the famous Battle happened between K. *Charles* II. and *Oliver Cromwell*; and they frequently find Bones of the Slain, in digging in the Garden. Above in the Park is to be ſeen a great Work of four Baſtions, called *The Royal Mount*, whence a *Vallum* and Ditch run both Ways to incompaſs this Side of the City. Here, 'tis probable, the Storm began, when the Royaliſts were driven back into the City with great Slaughter; and the King eſcaped being made a Priſoner in the narrow Street at this Gate, by a loaded Cart of Hay purpoſely overthrown, which gave him Time to retire at the oppoſite Gate to *Boſcobel*, or *White Ladies*.

A Mile and half above the South Gate, on the Top of the Hill, is the celebrated *Perrywood*, where *Cromwell*'s Army lay, and which affords a fine Proſpect over the County.

Worceſter was made an Epiſcopal See by *Ethelred* King of the *Mercians*, who founded the Cathedral; which was again built by St. *Wulſtan*, Biſhop of the Dioceſe about 1084. but inlarged and improved by his

his Succeſſors; tho' the Body of it makes no extraordinary Appearance on the Outſide. The Tower is low, without any Spire, only four very ſmall Pinacles on the Corners; and yet it has ſome little Beauty in it, more than the Church itſelf. The upper Part has ſome Images in it, but decayed by Time. *Baſelus*, the firſt Biſhop, was conſecrated in 680. In it is buried the once reſtleſs King *John*; not where his Monument now ſtands, which is in the Choir before the High Altar; but under a little Stone before the Altar of the Eaſtermoſt Wall of the Church. On each Side of him, on the Ground, lie the Effigies of the two Biſhops, his chief Saints, *Wulſtan* and *Oſwald*, from whoſe Neighbourhood he hoped to be ſafe. The Image of the King probably lay here alſo upon the Ground, now elevated upon a Tomb in the ſaid Choir.

On the South Side of the High Altar is a large and handſome Stone Chapel, over the Monument of Prince *Arthur*, eldeſt Son of *Henry* VII. who died at *Ludlow*, as his Tomb-ſtone ſpecifies, *Anno* 1502. and whoſe Relict *Catharine*, Infanta of *Spain*, his Brother *Henry* VIII. marrying, after 20 Years Wedlock, was divorced from, to make way for *Anna Bolen*. The Choir of this Chapel is exquiſite Workmanſhip; but ſuffered much in the late Civil Wars.

Here is alſo, among other noted Monuments, one for that famous Counteſs of *Salisbury*, who, dancing before *Edward* III. in his great Hall at *Windſor*, dropped her Garter, which the King taking up, honoured it ſo much (as the idle Story goes) as to make it the denominating Enſign of the moſt Noble Order of the *Garter*; but this I have refuted under my Account of *Windſor*: tho', that the Counteſs did drop her Garter, is Fact; and the King might gallantly, to ſilence the Jeſts and Railleries of the Court, wear it during the Entertainment, inſtead of his Garter

ter of the Order. But the Motto was given in Alluſion to the Order of Knighthood, and not of the Garter.

The Monument is very fine, and there is this remarkable in it, That there are ſeveral Angels cut in Stone about it, ſtrewing Garters over the Tomb.

There are ſeveral other antient Monuments in this Church, which I have not Room to mention.

The Cloiſters are very perfect, and the Chapter-houſe is large, ſupported, as to its arched Roof, by one umbilical Pillar. 'Tis now become a Library, is well furniſhed, and has many good antient Manuſcripts.

There is a large old Gatehouſe ſtanding, and near it the Caſtle, with a very high artificial Mount or Keep, nigh the River.

The Bridge I have mentioned has ſix Arches, and the Banks of the *Severn* look very beautiful on each Side, being enriched with pleaſant Meadows.

This City is governed by a Mayor and ſix Aldermen. It has two Chamberlains, a Recorder, a Town-clerk, two Coroners, a Sword-bearer, four Serjeants at Mace, and a Sheriff; being, like *Glouceſter*, a County of itſelf, divided into ſeven Wards, in which are 12 Pariſh-churches.

The Inhabitants are generally eſteemed rich, being full of Buſineſs, occaſioned chiefly by the Clothing-trade, of which the City and the County round carry on a great Share, as well for the *Turky* as the Home-trade. The Number of Hands which it employs in this Town, and adjoining Villages, in Spinning, Carding, Rowing, Fulling, Weaving, &c. is almoſt incredible. One Part of the Town is wholly poſſeſſed by *Welſh* People, who ſpeak their own Language, and are employed in this Manufacture. So that this City, which was formerly ſo great a Grievance to the great ones of that Principality, now adminiſters

miniſters Subſiſtence to a vaſt Number of the meaner ones.

It is adorned by a capacious and beautiful Structure, called *The public Workhouſe*; in which Children of both Sexes are trained up to the Knowlege of Trade, and the Practice of Religion and Virtue; by whoſe Labour alſo the Aged and Decrepit are ſupported. This laudable Inſtitution continued ſeveral Years, to the great Benefit of the City, till at laſt the Guardians of it having contracted a Debt of upwards of 300 *l.* they returned the Poor back to their reſpective Pariſhes; and, the whole Charity being fruſtrated, and put an End to, the Corporation let out the Building for an Hop-market, Warehouſes, *&c.* to pay the incurred Debt, either Principal or Intereſt.

Hereupon their worthy Repreſentative *Samuel Sandys*, Eſq; now Lord *Sandys*, and other Gentlemen, procured an Act of Parliament for reſtoring it to its firſt laudable End; which Act took place from *June* 1730. and will be a laſting Monument to the Honour of the diſintereſted and public-ſpirited Gentleman, to whoſe unwearied Application, and inflexible Reſolution, it was owing: for it muſt be obſerved, that alienated Charities are ſome of the hardeſt things in the World to be reſtored.

Oppoſite to this Workhouſe, *Robert Berkley* of *Spetchley*, Eſq; erected a fine Hoſpital for 12 poor Men, and gave 2000 *l.* to build it, and 4000 *l.* to endow it.

Here are, beſides, three Grammar-ſchools, and ſeven Alms-houſes, all liberally endowed; and 10 Pariſh-churches. *St. Nicolas*'s Church, in this City, has been lately rebuilt, and is a neat and commodious Edifice.

The Church of *All Saints*, in this Town, being in ſo ruinous a Condition that Part of it actually fell down, and the reſt being ready to fall, an Act paſſ-

ed,

ed, Seſſ. 1737-8. for taking down and rebuilding the ſame.

The Market-days are *Wedneſday*, *Friday*, and *Saturday*. Every *Saturday* is kept a very conſiderable Hop-market. The Fairs are held on the *Saturday* before *Palm-Sunday*, the Aſſumption of the Bleſſed Virgin, and her Nativity. *Worceſter* ſends two Members to Parliament.

From *Worceſter* I made ſome Excurſions, to viſit the Towns and Country Northward; and firſt came to *Droitwich*, a corporate Bailiwick and Borough-town, which has 4 Churches, and is pretty wealthy. 'Tis famous for excellent white Salt, which is made here from the Summer to the Winter-Solſtice; not but they may make Salt here all the Year long, but they fear to over-ſtock the Market. It appears, by *Doomſday-book*, they made Salt here before the Conqueſt. The Salt Springs are very good, and productive of Plenty of Brine. The Town lies on the River *Salwarp*, and ſends two Members to Parliament.

Proceeding directly on, in the Road, we arrived at *Broomſgrove*, a large Bailiwick-town, likewiſe on the River *Salwarp*, where the Clothing-trade is pretty briſkly carried on. It is the Centre of four Roads; one leads to *Coventry*, and *Leiceſter*; another to *Warwick*, and ſo to *London*; a third to *Worceſter*; and the fourth to *Shrewsbury*.

Between *Worceſter* and *Spetchley* was *St. Oſwald*'s Hoſpital, demoliſhed in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*. But Dr. *Fell*, Biſhop of *Oxford*, after the Reſtoration, recovered much of the Poſſeſſions, and erected a fair and large Hoſpital, which comfortably maintains 12 poor Men.

Kidderminſter is a Town in this County of *Worceſter*, very conſiderable for its woolen Trade, particularly the Weaving of what they call Lindſey-woolſey, in which the Inhabitants are almoſt wholly

employed. It is a large, but yet compact and populous, Town, ſituated on the *Stour*, and governed by a Bailiff, 12 capital Burgeſſes, 25 Common-councilmen, *&c.* In its Church is a croſs-legged Monument of Sir *Thomas Acton*.

Stourbridge is alſo ſituated upon the River *Stour*, over which it has a very good Bridge; whence its Name. This Town deals greatly in Glaſs Manufacture of all Sorts, and alſo in Iron-works of all Sorts; and is vaſtly improved of late Years, both in Houſes and Inhabitants. At *Swinford*, near *Stourbridge*, is a noble Hoſpital for 60 Boys, erected by the firſt Founder of the noble Family of *Foley*, which deſerves the Attention of a Traveler, and the Praiſe of all Men. At *Stourbridge* alſo fine Stone Pots are made for Glaſs-makers to melt their Metal in, alſo Crucibles, *&c.* the Clay, of which theſe things are made, being almoſt peculiar to the Place.

Near this Town is *Hagley-Park*, the Seat of Sir *Thomas Lyttelton*, which is a beautiful Spot of Ground, having as great Variety of Hills, Valleys, and Wood, as can be imagined in ſuch a Space of Ground; and the preſent Poſſeſſor is conſtantly improving and helping Nature; ſo that it may be eſteemed one of the fineſt Seats in this County.

Birmingham is a very populous Town, and full of Iron Manufactories, eſpecially of the ſmaller Sorts; in which the Inhabitants ſo greatly excel, that their Works are carried to all Parts of the World in great Quantities. It was a Lordſhip before the *Norman* Times, which Denomination it ſtill retains, being governed by two Conſtables; but is of late Years greatly improved and inlarged by many new Buildings, both public and private; particularly a Church built by virtue of an Act of Parliament paſſed in the 7th of Queen *Anne*, which is dedicated to St. *Philip*; a Charity-ſchool, wherein are maintained and taught

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upwards of 50 Boys and Girls; and a free Grammar-ſchool, founded and handſomely endowed by King *Edward* VI. now rebuilt in a ſtately and commodious Form. This Town is in *Warwickſhire*, on the Borders of this County, ſituated on the Side of an Hill, and has a moſt plentiful Market every *Thurſday*, and two annual Fairs, one on *Aſcenſion-day*, and the other at *Michaelmas*.

A little below *Worceſter*, Weſtward, the *Severn* receives a River of a long deep Courſe, which comes from *Shropſhire*, called the *Teme*, on which ſtands a ſmall Market-town, called *Tenbury*, but of little Note. I paſſed this River formerly in my Way to *Ludlow*, at *Broadway*, a little Village; but now I went by the Way of *Bewdley*, on the Side of *Shropſhire*.

In this Courſe we ſaw two fine Seats not very far from the *Severn*, *viz.* the Lord *Foley*'s, and the Earl of *Bradford*'s, as we did before a moſt delicious Houſe, belonging to the Lord *Conway*. Indeed this Part of the County, and all the County of *Salop*, is filled with fine Seats of the Nobility and Gentry, which we have not Room to deſcribe. But altho' the Number of Seats is not diminiſhed in theſe two Counties, yet many of the Parks have been laid open, and converted into Farms; whereby the Owners have greatly enlarged their Eſtates, eſpecially where the Land was good. The Number of incloſed Parks in *Salop*, ſome Years ago, was upwards of one hundred.

Bewdley, or *Beau-lieu*, i. e. *fine Place*, ſaid to be ſo called from its pleaſant and delightful Situation upon the Side of an Hill declining to the *Severn*, is a ſmall Borough and Bailiff Market-town, well ſupplied with Corn, Malt, Leather, and Caps, which the *Dutch* Seamen buy, called *Monmouth Caps*, and noted for the Palace which King *Henry* VII. built

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here for his Son Prince *Arthur*, called *Tickenhall*. It had a very fine Park about it, which, with the Houſe, was deſtroyed by the furious Enthuſiaſts in the Civil War. The Town ſends two Members to Parliament.

A Mile off is *Ribsford*, the Seat of Lord *Herbert* of *Cherbury*, pleaſantly ſurrounded with Woods. Here is a good Picture of *William* the firſt Earl of *Pembroke*.

The Ends of the Hills towards the River are generally Rocks: and *Blackſton-hill* has an Hermitage cut out of it, with a Chapel, and ſeveral Apartments. Near it is a pretty Rock upon the Edge of the Water, covered with Oaks, and many curious Plants.

Not far from *Cherbury-Park* is the Pariſh of *Roch*, where the famous *Auguſtine*'s Oak ſtood, ſo called from a Conference held under it by *Auguſtine*, and the *Britiſh* Biſhops, about the Celebration of *Eaſter*, and preaching God's Word, and adminiſtring Baptiſm after the Rites of the Church of *Rome*, which the *Britiſh* Biſhops refuſed.

I thought once to have returned to *Worceſter*, and ſo proceeded to *Herefordſhire*, and down to *Monmouth*, and ſo round the Coaſt of *Wales*. But being deſirous to take in, firſt, the South Part of *Shropſhire*, I followed the *Severn* up North, and came to *Bridgnorth*, a very antient and noted Borough-town, ſaid to be built by Queen *Æthelfleda*, in the Time of the Heptarchy. The Charter given by King *John* mentions a former by King *Henry* II. It has endured ſeveral Sieges, in one of which *Hubert de St. Clare* voluntarily received an Arrow in his Breaſt, which was leveled at his Sovereign King *Henry* II. It was almoſt deſtroyed by Fire, in its Defence againſt Sir *Lewis Kirke*, an Officer in the Parliamentarian Army. Upon the Weſt Bank of the *Severn* are the Remains of an antient and magnificent Convent of *Franciſcans*, under

under which are ſeveral Caverns, running a great Length.

Bridgnorth conſiſts of two Towns, the High and the Low, which are ſeparated by the *Severn*, but united by a fair Stone Bridge of ſeven Arches, which hath a Gate and Gatehouſe. The Situation is pleaſant, the Air healthy, the Proſpect delightful, and commodious for Trade. It hath been fortified with Walls, and a Caſtle built by *Robert de Beleſme*, which are now in Ruins; and the Area in the laſt is converted to a fine Bowling-green. The Streets are many, and well paved. Part of the *Cowgate-ſtreet* is a Rock riſing perpendicularly, where are ſeveral Tenements, which have an agreeable, tho' groteſque, Appearance. It is governed by two Bailiffs, 24 Aldermen, and other inferior Officers. It is noted for good Gun-makers, and its Stocken Manufacture. It has a well-repleniſhed Market, and five Fairs annually, two whereof hold three Days, which are much reſorted to, and abound with Horſes, Black Cattle, Sheep, Butter, Cheeſe, Bacon, Linen-cloth, and Hops in great Plenty. Here are two Churches, *St. Mary Magdalen*'s, made a free Chapel, and exempted from epiſcopal Juriſdiction, by King *John*; and *St. Leonard*'s, which was burnt in the Civil Commotions under King *Charles* I. and lately rebuilt by the Inhabitants; but the College, which met with the ſame Fate, was never reſtored: and though the Pariſhes are large, and the Town very populous, they are very indifferently endowed, and ſo is the Free-ſchool. There is an hollow Way cut thro' the Rock, leading from the high Town to the Bridge, of the Depth of 20 Feet, in ſome Parts of it; and likewiſe many Vaults and Dwellings are hewn out of the Rock. The Town ſends two Members to Parliament.

From hence we advanced in the direct Road to *Shrewsbury*, and came to *Great Wenlock*, an antient

incorporated Town, governed by a Bailiff and Burgeſſes; which returns two Members to Parliament.

Leaving *Shrewsbury* for my Obſervation at my Return from *Wales* thro' *Cheſhire*, we turned ſhort here, and fell down Southward to *Ludlow*, famed more for its Beauty than Antiquity; for, it ſeems, the Caſtle, which was ſo truly magnificent, was built by *Roger de Montgomery* in the *Conqueror*'s Time.

But before I ſpeak more of this Caſtle, I ſhall obſerve, that on the Extremity of this County, in a kind of Promontory, which runs in between *Montgomeryſhire* and *Radnorſhire*, upon the *Clun*, lies

Biſhops-Caſtle, a ſmall Market, Bailiwick, and Borough-town, which ſends two Members to Parliament: and not very far from it, juſt at the Entrance into *Montgomeryſhire*, is a noted Place called *Biſhops-mott*; where is an Acre of Ground, ſurrounded with an Intrenchment. The *Clun* meets the *Teme* at *Ludlow*, and both, united, run to *Clebury*, a ſmall Town on the Borders of *Worceſterſhire*, where it falls, as I mentioned before, into the *Severn*.

The Caſtle of *Ludlow* ſhews plainly in its Decay, what it was in its flouriſhing Eſtate: it is the Palace of the Prince of *Wales*, in Right of his Principality.

Its Situation is indeed moſt beautiful; there is a moſt ſpacious Plain or Lawn in its Front, which formerly continued near two Miles; but much of it is now incloſed. The Country round it is exceeding pleaſant, fertile, populous, and the Soil rich; nothing can be added by Nature, to make it a Place fit for a Royal Palace. It is built in the North-weſt Angle of the Town upon a Rock, commanding a delightful Proſpect Northward; and on the Weſt is ſhaded by a lofty Hill, and waſhed by the River. The Battlements are of great Height and Thickneſs, with Towers at convenient Diſtances. That Half which is within the Walls of the Town is ſecured with a deep Ditch;

Ditch; the other is founded on a ſolid Rock. A Chapel here has abundance of Coats of Arms upon the Panels, as has the Hall, together with Lances, Spears, Firelocks, and old Armour.

It will be no Wonder, that this noble Caſtle is in the very Perfection of Decay, when we acquaint our Readers, that the preſent Inhabitants live upon the Sale of the antient Materials. All the fine Courts, the Royal Apartments, Halls, and Rooms of State, lie open, abandon'd, and ſome of them falling down; for ſince the Courts of the Preſident and Marches are taken away, here is nothing that requires the Attendance of any public Perſons; ſo that Time, the great Devourer of the Works of Men, begins to eat into the very Stone Walls, and to ſpread the Face of Ruin upon the whole Fabric. Over ſeveral of the Stable-doors are the Arms of Queen *Elizabeth*, the Earls of *Pembroke*, &c.

The Town of *Ludlow* is likewiſe fortified with Walls, thro' which are ſeven Gates. It is well-built, and a Place of good Trade; but, to be ſure, it is not the better for the ruinous State of the Caſtle, and the aboliſhing of the Court held there for the Marches. It ſtands on the Edge of the two Counties, *Shropſhire* and *Worceſterſhire*, but is itſelf in the firſt.

On the South-ſide of the Town runs the *Teme*, over which is a good Bridge. The River has ſeveral Dams acroſs it, in the Nature of Cataracts, whereby abundance of Mills are turned; and great is the Roar of the ſuperfluous Waters.

Ludlow has a very good Church with an handſome Tower, and a pleaſant Ring of ſix Bells. The Windows are full of painted Glaſs, pretty intire.

There are ſome old Monuments of the Lords Preſidents, &c. and an Inſcription upon the North Wall of the Choir, relating to Prince *Arthur*, elder Brother to King *Henry* VIII. who died here; and in this

Spot his Bowels were depoſited. It is ſaid, That his Heart was taken up ſome time ago in a leaden Box.

In the Eaſtern Angle of the Choir is a Cloſet, antiently called *The Godhouſe*, where the Prieſts ſecured their conſecrated Utenſils. The Window is ſtrongly barred on the Outſide. The Church is dedicated to St. *Laurence*: and in the Market-place is a Ciſtern or Conduit, on the Top of which is a long Stone Croſs, bearing a Niche, in which is the Image of that Saint.

Weſt of the Church was a College, now converted to a private Houſe. There was a rich Priory out of the Town, on the North Side of which are but few Ruins to be ſeen, except a ſmall Church, which formerly belonged to it. The *Welſh* call this Town *Lye Twyſoy*, i. e. *The Prince's Court*. Mr. *Camden* calls the River *Teme* the *Temd*, and another River which joins it juſt at this Town, the *Corve*, whence the rich flat Country below the Town is called *Corveſdale*. It is governed by two Bailiffs, 12 Aldermen, a Recorder, 25 Common-councilmen, and other inferior Officers; and has the paaticular Privilege of trying and executing Criminals. It has an Alms-houſe for 30 poor People; and ſends two Members to Parliament.

King *Henry* VIII. eſtabliſhed here the Court of the Preſident and Council of the Marches, beforementioned; and all Cauſes of *Niſi Prius*, or of Civil Right, were tried here, before the Lord Preſident and Council; but this Court, being grown a great Grievance to the Public, was intirely taken away by Act of Parliament, in the firſt Year of King *William* and Queen *Mary*.

From *Ludlow* we took our Courſe ſtill due South to *Lemſter*, or *Leominſter*, a large Market-town on the River *Lug*, over which it hath ſeveral Bridges.

'Tis.

'Tis governed by a Bailiff, and returns two Members to Parliament. The Church, which is very large, has been in a manner rebuilt, and is now very beautiful. This Town is noted for its fine Wool, and the beſt Wheat, and conſequently the fineſt Bread; and alſo for the beſt Barley; whence *Lemſter Bread*, and *Weobly Ale*, are become a proverbial Saying.

It is a Town of briſk Trade in Wool, Hat-making, Leather, *&c.* and lies in a Valley exceedingly luxuriant. Three Rivers of a very ſwift Current go thro' the Town, beſides others very near. The Inhabitants make great Uſe of theſe by Mills, and other Machinery in the various Branches of their Trade. On the North-ſide of the Church was a conſiderable Priory, two Iſles of which belong now to the Church, and two others of more lightſome Work have been added. The Mayor has a long black Rod to walk with, tipp'd with Silver. There are ſome poor Remains of the Priory, chiefly a little Chapel, which probably belonged to the Prior's Family. Underneath it runs a pretty Rivulet, which uſed to grind his Corn, now converted to a Fulling-mill. Near it are very large Ponds for Fiſh, which uſed to furniſh the Monks on faſting Days. There was a fine Gatehouſe, pulled down not long ago, near the *Ambry* or *Almery* Cloſe, where they gave their Scraps away to the Poor.

At *Lemſter* there is an Alms-houſe, founded by the Widow of a Man who gave away the beſt Part of his Effects in his Life-time In a Nich over the Entrance is the Figure of a Man holding up a Hatchet, with theſe Words under:

Let him that gives his Good before he is dead,
Take this Hatchet, and cut off his Head.

Pembridge, *Weobly*, and *Kyneton* lie South-weſt of *Lemſter*, and form in their Situation a kind of Triangle. They are all Market-towns, and the firſt is pretty conſiderable for the Clothing-trade; the ſecond

for Ale, and for ſending two Members to Parliament; but the third for nothing that I know of.

The County on our Right, as we camè from *Ludlow*, is very fruitful and pleaſant, and is called the Hundred of *Wigmore*, from which the Earl of *Oxford* takes the Title of Baron. Here we ſaw the two antient Caſtles of *Brampton Brian*, and *Wigmore*, both belonging to the late Earl's Grandfather, Sir *Edward Harley*. *Brampton* is a ſtately Pile, but not kept in full Repair. The Parks are fine, and full of large Timber.

We were now on the Borders of *Wales*, properly ſo called; for from the Windows of *Brampton* Caſtle, you have a fair Proſpect into the County of *Radnor*, which is, as it were, under its Walls; nay, even this whole County of *Hereford* was a Part of *Wales*, and ſo deemed for many Ages. The People of this County too boaſt, that they were a Part of the antient *Silures*, who for ſo many Ages withſtood the *Roman* Arms, and could never be intirely conquered. They are a diligent and laborious People, chiefly addicted to Huſbandry; and they boaſt, that they have the fineſt Wool, the beſt Hops, and the richeſt Cyder, in all *Britain*; and poſſibly with ſome Reaſon; for the Wool about *Leominſter*, and in the Hundred of *Wigmore*, and the *Golden Vale*, as it is called for its Richneſs, on the Banks of the River *Dove* (all in this County), is as fine as any in *England*, the *Southdown* Wool not excepted. As for *Hops*, they plant abundance all over this County, and they are very good. And for *Cyder*, it is the common Drink of the County, and is ſo very good, and ſo cheap, that we never found fault, though we could get no other Drink for 20 Miles together. Great Quantities of this Cyder are ſent to *London*, even by Land-carriage, tho' ſo very remote; which is an Evidence in its Favour beyond Contradiction.

One

One would hardly expect ſo pleaſant and fruitful a Country as this, ſo near the barren Mountains of *Wales*; but 'tis certain, that not any of our Southern Counties, the Neighbourhood of *London* excepted, come up to the Fertility of this County.

From *Lemſter* it is Ten Miles to *Hereford*, the chief City, not of this County only, but of all the Counties Weſt of the *Severn*. In the Time of the late Civil Wars it was very ſtrong, and, being well fortified, and as well defended, ſupported a tedious and very ſevere Siege; for, beſides the Parliament's Forces, who could never reduce it, the *Scots* Army was called to the Work, who lay before it, till they laid above 4000 of their Bones there, and at laſt it was rather ſurrendered by the fatal Iſſue of the War, than by the Attack of the Beſiegers.

It had before this ſix Pariſh-churches; but two of them were demoliſhed at that time. It has an Hoſpital liberally endowed for 12 poor People.

The City of *Hereford* probably ſprung from the Ruins of the *Roman Ariconium*, now *Kencheſter*, three Miles off, higher up the River *Wye*, but not very near it, which may be a Reaſon for its Decay.

Kencheſter ſtands upon a little Brook, called the *Ine*, which thence encompaſſing the Walls of *Hereford*, falls into the *Wye*.

Archenfield ſeems to retain the Name of *Ariconium*. Nothing remains of its Splendor, but a Piece of a Temple probably, with a Nich which is five Feet high, and three broad within, built of Brick, Stone, and indiſſoluble Morter. There are many large Foundations near it. A very fine moſaick Floor, a few Years ago, was found intire, which was ſoon torn to Pieces by the ignorant Country-people. A Bath was here found by Sir *John Hoskins* about ſeven Feet ſquare, the Pipes of Lead intire: thoſe of Brick were a Foot long, three Inches ſquare, let arti-

ficially into one another; over theſe, I ſuppoſe, was a Pavement.

This, as Dr. *Stukely* obſerves, is an excellent Invention for heating a Room, and might well be introduced among us in Winter-time.

In another Place is an Hollow, where burnt Wheat has been taken up. All around the City you may eaſily trace the Walls, ſome Stones being left everywhere, tho' overgrown by Hedges and Timber-trees. The Situation of the Place is a gentle Eminence of a ſquariſh Form; the Earth black and rich, overgrown with Brambles, Oak-trees, full of Stones, Foundations, and Cavities, where they have been digging, and found many Coins, *&c.* Colonel *Daxtſey* has paved a Cellar with ſquare Bricks dug up here. The Earl of *Coningſby* has adorned the Floor of his Evidence-room with them.

This City is overlooked and ſheltered towards the North with a prodigious Mountain of ſteep Aſcent; on the Top ſtands a vaſt Camp, with Works altogether inacceſſible, which is called *Credon-hill.* At the Summit, you are preſented with the moſt glorious and extenſive Proſpect, as far as *St. Michael's Mount*, in *Monmouthſhire*; crowned with two Tops, and of conſiderable Reſort among Zealots of the *Romiſh* Perſuaſion, who believe this holy Hill was ſent hither by St. *Patrick* out of *Ireland*, and that it works Wonders in ſeveral Caſes.

On the other Side, is the vaſt Black Mountain, which ſeparates *Brecknockſhire* from this County. The Town underneath appears like a little Copſe. *Dinder-hill*, whereon is a *Roman* Camp, ſtands on the contrary Bank of the *Wye*.

Upon the *Sug* are *Sutton-walls*, another vaſt *Roman* Camp upon an Hill overlooking a beautiful Vale, which was the Regal Reſidence of the powerful King *Offa*; but chiefly remarkable for the Murder of

young

young K. *Ethelbert*, whom he allured thither under Pretext of courting his Daughter, and who was buried in the neighbouring Church of *Marden*, ſituate in a Marſh by the River-ſide. Hence his Body was afterwards conveyed to *Hereford*, and enſhrined; but the particular Place cannot be found, his Monument being deſtroyed by the *Welſh* under a rebellious Earl of *Mercia*, who alſo plundered the City, and robbed the Eccleſiaſticks.

In the North Wing of the Cathedral of *Hereford*, is the Shrine, where the Body of *Cantilupe*, the great Miracle-monger in the Weſt of *England*, was depoſited; which Wing was built by himſelf, and on the Wall his Picture is painted. All round are the Marks of Hooks, where the Banners, Lamps, Reliques, and the like Preſents, were hung up. And the Riches of this Place were doubtleſs very conſiderable; for it is well guarded againſt the Aſſaults of Thieves. The Shrine is of Stone, carved round with Knights in Armour.

The Church, built by Biſhop *Athelſtan*, is very old and ſtately. The Spire is not high, but handſome; and there is a fine Tower at the Weſt End. The Roof, Iſles, and Chapel, have been added to the more antient Part by ſucceſſive Biſhops, as alſo the Towers, Cloiſters, &c. The Choir, tho' plain, is handſome, and there is a very good Organ. Adjoining to the Church is a College for 12 Vicars, and the Choriſters, who lead an academical Life.

The Chapter-houſe, which was very beautiful, was deſtroyed in the Civil Wars. About four Windows are left ſtanding; and the Springings of the Stone Arches between are of fine Ribwork, which compoſed the Roof, of that Sort of Architecture, wherewith *King's-college-chapel* was built. Two Windows were pulled down by Biſhop *Biſſe*, which he

he uſed in new fitting up the Epiſcopal Palace. Under the Windows, in every Compartment, was painted a King, Biſhop, Saint, Virgin, or the like; ſome of which were diſtinct enough, tho' ſo long expoſed to the Weather.

Here are a great Number of Monuments of Biſhops, and many valuable Braſſes and Tombs.

Between the Cathedral and Palace is a moſt venerable Pile, built and roofed with Stone, conſiſting of two Chapels, one above the other; the upper dedicated to St. *Magdalen*; the lower, which is ſome Steps under-ground, to St. *Catharine*.

The Government of the City is adminiſtred by a Mayor, Recorder, and Common-council. There are alſo peculiar Privileges for Companies, who have ſeparate Halls, and Power of making By-laws for the Benefit of their Trade. Here are two great Fairs held on *Wedneſday* after *Eaſter-day*, and on the 20th of *March*; an extraordinary Market on *Fridays* for Cattle, beſides thoſe on *Wedneſdays* and *Saturdays*. The City ſends two Members to Parliament.

The Caſtle was a noble Work, built by one of the *Edwards* before the Conqueſt, ſtrongly walled and ditched. There is a very lofty artificial Keep, having a Well faced with good Stone: and by the Side of the Ditch a Spring conſecrated to St. *Ethelbert*, with an old Stone Arch.

Without the Walls are the Ruins of *Black-Friers* Monaſtery, and a pretty Stone Croſs intire; round which the Cloiſters were originally built, as now the Cloiſters of the Cathedral incloſe another ſuch. Theſe Croſſes were in the Nature of a Pulpit, whence a Monk preached to the People in the open Air, as now practiſed in the Cloiſters of ſome Colleges in the Univerſities once a Year.

The neighbouring Hill, called *Dynmaur*, or *The great*

great Hill, makes amends for the Tediouſneſs of climbing it, by the Pleaſure we receive from its woody Creſt, and extenſive Proſpect.

At the City of *Hereford*, we could not but inquire into the Truth of the Story ſo famous, that the Right Reverend Biſhop *Gibſon* has mentioned it in his Continuation of *Camden*, of the removing the two great Stones near *Sutton*; which the People confirmed to us. The Story is thus:

Between *Sutton* and *Hereford*, in a common Meadow called the *Wergins*, were placed two large Stones for a Water-mark; one erected upright, and the other laid athwart. In the late Civil Wars, about the Year 1652. they removed to about twelveſcore Paces Diſtance, and nobody knew how; which gave occaſion to a vulgar Notion, That they were carried thither by the Devil. When they were ſet in their Places again, one of them required nine Yoke of Oxen to draw it.

Lidbury lies Eaſtward of *Hereford*, near the South End of the *Malvern* Hills. It is a fine well-built Market-town, ſituate in rich clayey Grounds, and much inhabited by Clothiers. Here is an Hoſpital for the Poor, well endowed.

Not far from *Lidbury*, is *Colwal*; near which, upon the Waſte, as a Countryman was digging a Ditch about his Cottage, he found a Crown or a Coronet of Gold, with Gems ſet deep in it. It was of a Size large enough to be drawn over the Arm with the Sleeve. The Stones of it are ſaid to have been ſo valuable, as to be ſold by a Jeweller for one thouſand five hundred Pounds.

Hereford, tho' a large and populous City, may yet be ſaid to be old, mean-built, and very dirty, lying low, and on the Bank of the *Wye*, which ſometimes incommodes them very much, by the violent Freſhes that come down from the Mountains of *Wales*;

Wales; for all the Rivers of this County, except the *Diffrin-Doe*, come out of *Wales*.

One thing remarkable, which we muſt not omit, is, that the College ſtill retains its Foundation-laws, and the Reſidentiaries are obliged to Celibacy; but otherwiſe, they live a very happy, eaſy, and plentiful Life; being furniſhed upon the Foot of the Foundation, beſides their Eccleſiaſtical Stipends.

In the Beginning of the Year 1738. they began to pull down the old *Gothick* Chapel belonging to the Biſhop's Palace at *Hereford*, in order to erect a Pile in a politer Taſte, for the publick Service. The demoliſhed Chapel was ſaid to be as old as the Conqueſt.

Between *Leominſter* and this City is another *Hampton-Court*, the Seat of the late Earl of *Coningſby*. That Lord was, from an *Iriſh* Peer, made an *Engliſh* one, by his late Majeſty King *George* I. And having no Son, his Daughter was created by the ſame Prince, in the Life-time of her Father, Baroneſs and Viſcounteſs *Coningſby* of *Hampton-Court*, in order that her Deſcendants might be intitled to a Peerage. She marry'd Sir *Michael Newton*, Bart. and a Knight of the *Bath*. This is a fine Seat built by *Henry Bolinbroke* Duke of *Lancaſter*, afterwards King *Henry* IV. in the Form of a Caſtle, ſituate in a Valley upon a rapid River, under Coverture of *Dynmaur*. The Gardens are very pleaſant, terminated by vaſt Woods covering all the ſloping Side of the Hill. There is a plentiful Supply of Water, on all Sides of the Houſe, for Fountains, Baſins, and Canals. Within, are excellent Pictures of the Earl's Anceſtors and others, by *Holben*, *Dobſon*, *Vandyke*, Sir *P. Lully*, &c. an Original of the Founder King *Henry* IV. of Queen *Elizabeth*, the Ducheſs of *Portſmouth*, &c.

The Windows of the Chapel are well painted: there are ſome Statues of the *Coningſbies*.

Here

Here are two new Stone Stair-caſes, after a geometrical Method. The Record-room is at-top of a Tower arched with Stone, paved with *Roman* Brick, and has an Iron Door. From the Top of the Houſe goes a Stair-caſe, which, they ſay, has a ſubterraneous Conveyance into *Dynmaur* Wood.

The Park is very fine, eight Miles in Circumference, and contains about 1200 Head of Deer. There are extenſive Proſpects on one Side reaching into *Wiltſhire*, on the other over the *Welſh* Mountains; Lawns, Groves, Canals, Hills, and Plains. There is a Pool three Quarters of a Mile long, very broad, and included between two great Woods. The Dam, which forms it, and is made over a Valley, coſt 800 *l.* and was finiſhed in a Fortnight by 200 Hands. A new River is cut quite thro' the Park, the Chanel of which, for a long Way together, is hewn out of the Rock. This ſerves to enrich vaſt Tracts of Lands, which before were barren. Here alſo are new Gardens and Canals laid out, and new Plantations of Timber in proper Places.

Warrens, Decoys, Sheep-walks, Paſtures for Cattle, *&c.* ſupply the Houſe with all Sorts of Conveniencies and Neceſſaries, without having recourſe to a Market.

Weſtward of *Hereford*, the *Golden Vale* beforementioned extends itſelf along the River *Dore*, which runs thro' the midſt of it, and is called by the *Britons*, *Duffrin Dore*: it is called the *Golden Vale*, from its pleaſant Fertility in the Spring, when it is covered over with a yellow Livery of Flowers. It is encompaſſed with Hills, which are crowned with Woods.

From *Hereford*, upon a very fine Stone-cauſeway of near a Mile long, made within a few Years paſt, we came to *Roſs*, famous for Cyder, a great Manufacture of Iron-ware, and its Trade on the River

Wye.

Wye. It is a fine old Town, and has a very handſome Church in it.

From hence we came at about eight Miles more into *Monmouthſhire*, formerly a *Welſh*, but now an *Engliſh*, County, and to the Town of *Monmouth*. It is a Place of great Antiquity, and is fair, large, and well-built, ſituate at the Conflux of the *Wye* and *Munnow*, whence the Town has its Name; it ſtands in the Angle where the Rivers join, and has a Bridge over each River, and a third over the River *Trothy*, which comes in juſt below the other.

This Town returns two Repreſentatives to Parliament; it ſhews Marks of great Antiquity; and, by the Remains of Walls, Lines, Curtains, and Baſtions, that it has been very ſtrong, and, by its Situation, that it may be made ſo again. It is a Borough-town, governed by two Bailiffs, Common-council-men, and Town-clerk. It has a very conſiderable Corn-market. It was famed for the Strength of the Caſtle in the Time of *William* I. and is the Birth-place of our renowned King *Henry* V. Conqueror of *France*; and likewiſe of one of our antient Hiſtorians, *Jeoffry* of *Monmouth*, a fabulous Writer. At preſent 'tis not very flouriſhing; yet it drives a conſiderable Trade with the City of *Briſtol*, by the Navigation of the *Wye*.

This River having received two large Streams, the *Munnow* and the *Trother*, becomes a very noble River; and with a deep Chanel, and a full Current, hurries away towards the Sea, carrying alſo Veſſels of a conſiderable Burden hereabouts.

Near *Monmouth*, the Duke of *Beaufort* has a fine Seat, called *Troy-houſe*.

Lower down, upon the *Wye*, in this Shire, ſtands *Chepſtow*, the Sea-port for all the Towns ſeated on this River, and the *Lug*, and where their Commerce ſeems to centre. Hither Ships of good Burden may come

come up, and the Tide runs with the ſame impetuous Current as at *Briſtol*; the Flood riſing ordinarily from ſix Fathom to ſix and an half at *Chepſtow* Bridge, which is a noble one indeed, built of Timber, and no leſs than 70 Feet high from the Surface of the Water, when the Tide is out. And that this was not a needleſs Height, was evident in *January* 1738. when the Water roſe at the Bridge upwards of 70 Feet, and very much damaged it: one Man loſt above 130 Head of Cattle, which, with other Damages it did there, and in the adjacent Places, were computed at 7 or 8000 *l.* *Chepſtow* has a well frequented Market, eſpecially for Corn. The Bridge, as half of it is in *Glouceſterſhire*, is maintained at the Expence of both Counties.

Two Miles from this Town is the famous Paſſage over the *Severn*, on this Side called *Beachly*, and on the other *Auſt*, as I have mentioned *p.* 318. Here *Offa's Dyke* begins, and, paſſing through *Radnorſhire*, extends itſelf up to *Flintſhire*, and ſo to the River *Dee*, which parts *Wales* from *Cheſhire*.

We turned Northwards, and arrived at *Abergavenny*, which is a large well-built and well-inhabited Market-town, ſituate at the Mouth of the *Gavenny*, running into the *Uſk*. It carries on a conſiderable Trade in Flanels, which the Country-people manufacture at home, and bring hither to ſell. It is a great Thoroughfare from the Weſtern Parts of *Wales* to *Briſtol* and *Bath* by *Chepſtow*, and to *Glouceſter* by *Monmouth*; and ſo croſſing the River thro' *Colford*, and the Foreſt of *Dean*.

The Fuel in this County is Pit-coal, and is very cheap, inſomuch that they ſell an Horſe-load for Twopence, at the Pit-mouth; and 'tis common, in the meaneſt Cot to ſee a good Fire.

Great Quantities of Corn are exported out of this County; and 'tis frequent, that the *Briſtol* Merchants

chants ſend their Ships hither to load for *Portugal*, and other foreign Countries. And indeed it is noted for producing as good Wheat and other Grain, as any County in the Kingdom; and yet it is very ſurpriſing, that Lands here never fell for more than 20 or 21 Years Purchace. The current Language of the County is *Welſh* among the Vulgar; but the Gentlemen ſpeak *Engliſh* generally.

As I am now juſt upon entering *Wales*, I will conclude this Letter with aſſuring you, that I am,

SIR,

Yours, &c.

LET-

LETTER VI.

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION *of the greateſt Part of the Principality of* WALES.

SIR,

I Thought I ſhould not pay the Principality the Reſpect it ſo well deſerves, if I did not begin a Letter with the Deſcription of it; it being the Country of that brave People, who had an original Right to the whole Iſland, and made ſo noble a Stand in Defence of their Liberties and Independency; and, at laſt, rather than ſubmit to a foreign Yoke, choſe to be free in this remote and inacceſſible Part of it.

But here let me premiſe, that *Wales* is repreſented in the *Britiſh* Parliament by 24 Members. The Counties and Towns which return them will be particulariz'd in the general Liſt, which I ſhall preſent you with at the End of my Tour thro' this Southern Part of the Iſland (*a*).

The two firſt Counties which border Weſt upon *Monmouthſhire* are *Brecknock* and *Glamorgan*, and are very mountainous on the Eaſt Side, which gives a

(*a*) *See at the Concluſion of Vol.* III.

Traveler

Traveler a terrible Apprehenſion of the Country he is this way entering into, and an Expectation of meeting with nothing that is agreeable; but he is not long before he is undeceived, and finds the Reward of his Trouble. In that Part of *Monmouthſhire* which joins the two Counties, begins the Riſing of the Hills. *Kyrton-Beacon*, *Tumberlow*, *Blorench*, *Penvail*, and *Skirridan*, are ſome of the Names of theſe horrid Mountains, and are all in this Shire; and I could not but fanſy myſelf in View of *Mount Brennus*, *Little-Barnard*, and *Great-Barnard*, among the *Alps*.

We now entered *South Wales*; which contains the Shires of *Glamorgan*, *Brecknock*, *Radnor*, *Caermarthen*, *Pembroke*, and *Cardigan*.

Brecknockſhire is a mere inland County, as *Radnor* is; the *Engliſh* jeſtingly (and I think not very improperly) call it *Break-neck-ſhire*: 'tis mountainous to an Extremity, except on the Side of *Radnor*, where it is ſomething more low and level. It is well watered by the *Wye* and the *Uſk*, two Rivers mention'd before. Upon the latter ſtands the Town of *Brecknock*, the Capital of the County, well-built, and the Aſſizes are kept at it. It is very antient, and indeed, to mention it here once for all, there are more Tokens of Antiquity to be ſeen every-where in *Wales*, than in any Part whatever of *England*, except the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Northumberland*. Here we ſaw *Brecknock-mere*, a large or long Lake of Water, two or three Miles over; of which they have a great many Fables, not worth relating: the beſt of them is, that a certain River, called *Lheweni*, runs thro' it, and keeps its Colour in Midchanel, diſtinguiſhed from the Water of the Lake, and, as they ſay, never mingles with it. They take abundance of good Fiſh in this Lake, ſo that, like the River *Theiſſe* in *Hungary*, they ſay it is Two-thirds Water, and One-third Fiſh. The Country-people affirm,

that

that once a City ſtood here, but that, by the Judgment of Heaven, for the Sins of its Inhabitants, it ſunk into the Earth, and the Water roſe up in the Place of it. I obſerve the ſame Story is mentioned by Mr. *Camden*, with ſome Difference in the Particulars: I believe my Share of it; but 'tis remarkable, that Mr. *Camden*, having loſt the old City *Loventium*, mentioned by *Ptolemy* to be hereabouts, is willing to account for it by this odd Story.

It was among the Mountains of this County that the famous *Glendower* ſheltered himſelf, and, taking Arms on the depoſing *Richard* II. proclaimed himſelf Prince of *Wales*: They ſhew us ſeveral little Refuges of his in the Mountains, whither he retreated; and from whence, again, he made ſuch bold Excurſions into *England*, as to have put *Henry* IV. to very great Difficulties.

Tho' this County be ſo mountainous, Proviſions are exceeding plentiful, and alſo very good, all over the Country; nor are theſe Mountains uſeleſs, even to the City of *London*, as I have noted of other Counties; for from hence they ſend yearly great Herds of Black Cattle to *England*, and which are known to fill our Fairs and Markets, even that of *Smithfield* itſelf.

The yellow Mountains of *Radnorſhire* are the ſame, and their Product of Cattle is the ſame; nor did I meet with any thing worth noticing, except Monuments of Antiquity. The Stories of *Vortigern*, and *Roger* of *Mortimer*, are in every old Woman's Mouth here. Here is a great Cataract or Water-fall of the River *Wye*, at a Place called *Rhajadr Gwy* in *Welſh*, which ſignifies the Cataract or Water-fall of the *Wye*; but we did not go to ſee it, by reaſon there was a great Flood out at that time, which made the Way dangerous. There ſeemed to us a kind of Deſert too, on that Side, which is ſcarce paſſable by Strangers;

ſo we made it our North Boundary for this Part of our Journey.

We ſhall only add, That *Radnor* is the Shire-town, and hath a Caſtle; that *Preſteigne* in *Radnor-ſhire* is a well-built Town, and the Aſſizes are held there.

Entering *Glamorganſhire*, from *Radnor* and *Brecknock*, we beheld *Monuchdenny-hill* on our Left, and the *Black Mountains* on the Right, and all a Ridge of horrid Rocks and Precipices between, over which, if we had not had good Guides, we ſhould never have found our Way; and indeed we began to repent our Curioſity, in going out of the common Road, as not having met with any thing worth the Trouble; and the Country looking ſo full of Horror, we thought to have given over the Enterprize, and have left *Wales* out of our Circuit: but after a Day and a Night engaging thus with Rocks and Mountains, our Guide brought us down into a moſt agreeable Vale, opening to the South, and a pleaſant Riuer running thro' it, called the *Taaffe*; and following its Courſe, we came to a famous Spring of warm Water, called *Taaffe-Well*, and riſing up in a dry Shole under the Northern Bank of the River. Four Miles farther we paſſed thro' the antient City of *Landaff*; and in the Evening arrived at *Cardiff*, a *Welſh* Mile beyond it.

Landaff in *Glamorganſhire* is the Seat of the Epiſcopal See, and a City; but ſo ſmall, that it has not a Market; but *Caerdiff*, which is lower on the River, is the Port and Town of Trade; and has a very good Harbour opening into the *Severn* Sea.

The Cathedral is a neat Building, and very antient. They boaſt that this Church was an Houſe of Religious Worſhip many Years before any other was founded in the Iſland; and that the Chriſtian Religion flouriſhed in its primitive Purity, from the Year 186. till the *Pelagian* Hereſy overſpread this Country; which

which being afterwards rooted out, they placed St. *Dobricius*, as the firſt Biſhop, in this Town of *Landaff*, then called *Launton*. The Biſhop of *Landaff* had formerly the Title of Archbiſhop: the three firſt Biſhops were afterwards ſainted for their eminent Holineſs of Life, and the Miracles they are ſaid to have wrought. 'Tis obſervable the Cathedral was antiently but 20 Feet long, and 10 broad, and had neither Steeple nor Bells; nor had they any other Cathedral from the Year 386. to the Year 1107. when Biſhop *Urban* built the preſent Church, with ſome Houſes for the Clergy adjoining, in the Nature of a Cloiſter.

Tho' the Church is antient, yet the Building is good, and the Choir neat, and pretty well kept.

The South Part of *Glamorganſhire* is pleaſant, agreeable, and very populous, inſomuch that it is called *The Garden of* Wales. Its Soil is fertile and rich, and the low Grounds are ſo well covered with Graſs, and ſtock'd with Cattle, that they ſupply the City of *Briſtol* with Butter in very great Quantities, ſalted and barreled up, juſt as *Suffolk* does the City of *London*.

Caerphyli Caſtle in *Glamorganſhire* is one of the nobleſt Pieces of Ruins in the whole Iſland. It was larger than any Caſtle in *England*, that of *Windſor* excepted; and, from what remains of it, was as beautiful in its Architecture, as it is remarkable in its Ruins; among which a round Tower, ſplit in the Middle, and one Half fallen quite down, the other Half leaning ſo as to overhang its Baſis more than nine Feet, is as great a Curioſity as the celebrated leaning Tower of *Piſa* in *Italy*.

Neath is a Port where the Coal-trade is pretty conſiderable, tho' it ſtands up within Land.

Swanzy is alſo a Sea-port, and a very conſiderable Town for Trade, with a very good Harbour. Here

is alſo a very great Trade for Coals, and Culm, which they export to all the Ports of *Somerſet*, *Devon*, and *Cornwall*, and even to *Ireland*; ſo that ſometimes may be ſeen a hundred Sail of Ships at a time loading Coals here; which greatly enriches the Country, and particularly this Town; it ſtands on the River *Twye*, or *Taw*. 'Tis very remarkable, that moſt of the Rivers in this County chime upon the Letters *T* and *Y*, as *Taaf*, *Tawy*, *Tuy*, *Towy*, *Tyvy*.

There are lately Mineral Waters found out at *Swanzy*, which are reported to be of great Efficacy in Fluxes and Hæmorrhages of all Sorts. Conſumptions, if not too far gone, Diabetes, Palſies, Rheumatiſms, Dropſies, and other Diſtempers, are ſaid to fall before theſe Styptick and Reſtorative Waters. They may certainly have very good Effects in many difficult Caſes; but it is doing an Injury to the Reputation of any Medicine in the World, to make it a *Catholicon*, and good for every thing.

Kynſig-Caſtle is now the Seat and Eſtate of the Lord *Manſel*, who has here alſo a very noble Income from the Collieries; which formerly denominated Sir *Edward Manſel* one of the richeſt Commoners in *Wales*. The Family was ennobled by her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*.

In this Neighbourhood, near *Morgan Mynydd*, we ſaw the famous Monument mentioned by Mr. *Camden*, on an Hill, with the Inſcription, which the Vulgar are ſo terrified at, that nobody cares to read it; for they have a Tradition from Father to Son, that whoever ventures to read it will die within a Month. We did not ſcruple the Adventure; but when we came to try, the Letters were ſo defaced by Time, that we were effectually ſecured from the Danger; the Inſcription not being any thing hear ſo legible, as it ſeems it was in Mr. *Camden*'s Time.

The Stone Pillar is about four or five Feet high, and one Foot thick, ſtanding on the Top of this Hill: there are ſeveral other ſuch Monuments in *Radnorſhire*, and other Counties in *Wales*, as likewiſe in *Scotland*.

Having thus touched on what is moſt curious on this Coaſt, we paſſed through the Land of *Gowre*; and going ſtill Weſt, we came to *Caermarthen*, or *Kaer-Vyrdhin*, as the *Welſh* call it, the Capital of the County of *Kaermardhinſhire*.

This is an antient and a very handſome Town, pleaſantly ſituated on the River *Towy*, which is navigable up to the Town, for Veſſels of a moderate Burden, and over which is a large Bridge. The Town is well-built, and populous; it is lately much increaſed, and is ſtill increaſing; and the County round it is the moſt fruitful of any Part of *Wales*, and continues to be ſo thro' all the Middle of the County, and a great Way into the next; nor is this County ſo mountainous and wild as the reſt of this Part of *Wales*: but it abounds in Corn, and in fine flouriſhing Meadows, as good as are moſt in *Britain*, and in which are fed a very great Number of good Cattle.

The Chancery and Exchequer, for the South Part of the Principality, were uſually kept at this Town, till the Juriſdiction of the Court and Marches of *Wales* was taken away. This Town was alſo famous for the Birth of the old *Britiſh* Prophet, *Merlin*, of whom ſo many things are fabled, and who flouriſhed in the Year 480. and here alſo the old *Britons* often kept their Parliaments, or Aſſemblies of their wiſe Men, and made their Laws. The Town was fortified in former Times, but the Walls are not to be ſeen now, and ſcarcely the Ruins of them. The People in this Town and Country are reckoned the wealthieſt and politeſt in *Wales*.

Here we ſaw near *Kily-Maen Llwyd*, on a great Mountain, a Circle of mighty Stones, very much like *Stone-henge* in *Wiltſhire*, or rather like the *Roll-rich* Stones in *Oxfordſhire*; and tho' the People call it *Bruarth Arthur*, or King *Arthur's Throne*, we ſee no Reaſon to believe that it had any Relation to him.

The next County, Weſt, is *Pembrokeſhire*, the moſt extreme Part of *Wales* on this Side. It is a rich, fertile, and plentiful Country, lying on the Sea-coaſt, where it has the Benefit of *Milford-Haven*, one of the greateſt and beſt Ports in *Britain*. Mr. *Camden* ſays, it contains 16 Creeks, 5 great Bays, and 13 good Roads for Shipping, all diſtinguiſhed as ſuch by their Names; and, ſome ſay, a thouſand Sail of Ships may ride in it.

Part of *Pembrokeſhire* is inhabited by the Deſcendents of the *Flemings*, placed there by King *Henry* I. and that County is called, *Little England beyond Wales*.

Before we quitted the Coaſt, we ſaw *Tenbigh*, the moſt agreeable Town on all the Sea-coaſt of *South-Wales*, except *Pembroke*, being a very good Road for Shipping, and well frequented. Here is a great Fiſhery for Herring in its Seaſon, a great Colliery, or rather Export of Coals, and they alſo drive a very conſiderable Trade to *Ireland*.

From hence, the Land, bearing far into the Sea, makes a Promontory, called *St. Goven's-Head*, or *Point*. But as we found nothing of Moment there, we croſs'd over the Iſthmus to *Pembroke*, which ſtands on the Eaſt Shore of the great Haven of *Milford*.

This is the largeſt and richeſt, and at this time the moſt flouriſhing Town of *South-Wales*, except *Caermarthen*. Here are a great many Gentlemen and Merchants, and ſome of the latter are Men of good Buſineſs; and they told us, there were near 200 Sail of Ships belong'd to the Town, ſmall and great: in a Word, all this Part of *Wales* is a rich and flouriſh-

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ing Country, very pleaſant, fertile, and well cultivated.

This is the Place alſo made particularly famous for the Landing of King *Henry* VII. then Earl of *Richmond*.

From hence, being reſolved to ſee the utmoſt Extent of the County, Weſt, we ferried over the Haven, and went to *Haverford*, by ſome call'd *Haverford-Weſt*, a County in itſelf; and from thence to *St. David*'s. *Haverford* is a good Town, ſtrong, well-built, clean, and populous.

From hence to *St. David*'s, the Country begins to look dry, barren, and mountainous.

St. David's is now a Biſhop's See only, but was formerly an Archbiſhop's, which was transferred to *Dole* in *Britany*, where it ſtill remains.

The venerable Aſpect of this Cathedral Church ſhews, that it has been a beautiful Building. The Weſt-end or Body of the Church is tolerable; the Choir is kept neat; the South Iſle without the Choir, and the Virgin *Mary*'s Chapel, which makes the Eaſt-end of the Church, are in a manner demoliſhed, and the Roofs of both fallen in.

There have been a great many eminent Perſons bury'd here, beſides ſuch whoſe Monuments are defaced by Time. Here is St. *David*'s Monument, to whom the Church is dedicated, the Monument of the Earl of *Richmond*, as alſo of the famous *Owen Tudor*: here are alſo four antient Monuments of Knights-Templers, known by their Figures lying croſs-legged; but their Names are not known; and there are ſix ſeveral Monuments of Biſhops, who preſided over this Church, beſides St. *David*.

This Saint, they tell us, was Uncle to King *Arthur*; that he lived to 146 Years of Age; that he was Biſhop of this Church ſixty-five Years, being born in the Year 496. and died *Anno* 642. that he built

twelve Monaſteries, and performed abundance of Miracles.

There was a very handſome Houſe for the Biſhop, with a College, all built in a Cloſe by themſelves; but they are now in Ruins.

Here, the Weather being very clear, we had a full View of *Ireland*, tho' at a very great Diſtance. The Land here is called *St. David's Head*. They reckon up 114 Biſhops of this See, ſince it began, to the Year 1740.

A late Biſhop of this See was Dr. *Thomas Watſon*, of whom the World has heard ſo much, being deprived, after a long Debate, on a Charge of *Simony*. I ſhall not inquire into the Merits of the Caſe; but he beſtowed great Sums on charitable Deſigns.

From hence we turned North, keeping the Sea in our Weſt Proſpect, and a rugged mountainous Country on the Eaſt, where the Hills even darkened the Air with their Height. As we went on, we paſſed by *Newport*, on the River *Nevern*, a Town having a good Harbour, and conſequently a good Trade with *Ireland*.

Here we left *Pembrokeſhire*, and after about 22 Miles came to *Cardigan*, a well-inhabited Town, on the River *Tyvy*, over which it has a fair Stone Bridge: 'tis a very noble River, and famous for its Plenty of the beſt and largeſt Salmon in *Britain*.

The Country-people told us, that they had formerly Beavers here, which bred in the Lakes among the Mountains, and coming down the Stream of *Tyvy*, deſtroyed the young Fry of Salmon, and therefore the Country-people deſtroy'd them. We thought they only meant the Otter, till I found afterwards, that Mr. *Camden* mentions alſo, that there had been Beavers ſeen here formerly.

This Town of *Cardigan* was once poſſeſſed by the great *Robert Fitz-Stephen*, who was the firſt *Briton* that

that ever attempted the Conqueſt of *Ireland*; and had ſuch Succeſs, with a Handful of Men, as afterwards gave the *Engliſh* a Footing there, which they never quitted, till they quite reduced the Country, and made it, as it were, a Province to *England*.

The Town is large, populous, has a fair Church, and is walled about, and fortified with a Caſtle; but that Part is now not much minded. It has a good Trade with *Ireland*, and is enriched very much, as is all this Part of the Country, by the famous Lead-Mines, formerly diſcovered by Sir *Carbery Price*, which are the greateſt, and perhaps the richeſt, in *England*; and particularly as they require ſo little Labour and Charge to come at the Ore, which in many Places lies within a Fathom or two of the Surface, and in ſome even bare to the very Top. There are alſo Silver-Mines in this County.

Going North from the *Tyvy* about 25 Miles, we came to *Aberyſtwith*, that is to ſay, the Town at the Mouth of the River *Yſtwith*. It is a populous, but a dark, ſmoaky Place; and we fanſied the People looked as if they had lived continually in Coal or Lead-Mines. However, they are rich.

The County of *Cardigan* is in no wiſe comparable to either of thoſe *Welſh* Counties which we have already paſſed through, there being a great deal of barren Lands in it. However, it is ſo full of Cattle, that 'tis ſaid to be the Nurſery, or Breeding-place, for the whole Kingdom of *England*, South by *Trent*; but this is not a Proof of its Fertility; for tho' the Feeding of Cattle indeed requires a rich Soil, the Breeding them does not, the Mountains and Moors being as proper for that Purpoſe as richer Land.

Now we entered *North-Wales*; only I ſhould add, that, as we paſſed, we had a Sight of the famous *Plymlymon-Hill*, out of the Eaſt-ſide of which riſe

the *Severn* and the *Wye*; and out of the Weſt-ſide of it riſe the *Ryddal* and the *Yſtwith*. This Mountain is exceeding high; and tho' it is hard to ſay which is the higheſt Hill in *Wales*, yet I think this bids fair for it; nor is the County, for twenty Miles round it, any thing but a continued Ridge of Mountains: ſo that for a few Days we ſeemed to be converſing in the upper Regions; for we were often above the Clouds a great Way; and the Names of ſome of theſe Hills ſeemed as barbarous, to us who ſpoke no *Welſh*, as the Hills themſelves.

Paſſing theſe Mountains North, we entered *North Wales*, which contains the Counties of *Montgomery*, *Merioneth*, *Caernarvon*, *Denbeigh*, and *Flint* Shires, and the Iſle of *Angleſea*.

In paſſing *Montgomeryſhire*, we were ſo tired with Hills and Mountains, that we wiſhed heartily we had kept cloſe to the Sea-ſhore; but we had not much mended the matter, if we had, as I underſtood afterwards. The River *Severn* is the principal Beauty of this County, which riſing out of the *Plymlymon* Mountain, as I have ſaid, receives in a ſhort Courſe ſo many other Rivers into its Boſom, that it becomes navigable before it gets out of the County, at *Welſh-Pool*, on the Edge of *Shropſhire*.

Montgomery is a faſhionable Place, and has many fair Dwellings in it, and ſome very good Families.

The Vales and Meadows upon the Banks of the *Severn* are exceedingly ornamental and profitable, and 'tis ſaid, that the Water of the *Severn*, like that of *Nile*, when it overflows, impregnates the Valleys by the Slime it leaves behind it: all the Country is very fruitful, where-ever this River runs. The Town of *Montgomery* lies not far from this River, on the outer Edge of the County, next to *Herefordſhire*. This was, it ſeems, a great Frontier Town in the Wars between the *Engliſh* and the *Welſh*, and was beauti-

fied

fied and fortified by King *Henry* III. but it is not now ſo very conſiderable, though a good Town ſtill, pleaſantly ſituated, and has a Caſtle.

This County has been long noted for an excellent Breed of *Welſh* Horſes, which, though not very large, are exceeding valuable, and much eſteemed all over *England*. All the North and Weſt Part of the County is mountainous and ſtony. We ſaw a great many old Monuments in this Country, and *Roman* Camps where-ever we came; and eſpecially, if we met any Perſons curious in ſuch things, we found they had many *Roman* Coins.

Merionethſhire, or *Merionydſhire*, lies Weſt from *Montgomeryſhire* on the *Iriſh* Sea, or rather the Ocean; for *St. George's Chanel* does not begin till farther North; and it is extended on the Coaſt for near 35 Miles in Length, all ſtill mountainous and craggy. The principal River is the *Tovy*, which riſes among the unpaſſable Mountains, which range along the Centre of this Part of *Wales*, and which we look at with Aſtoniſhment, for their prodigious Height. Some of the Hills have particular Names, but otherwiſe we call them all, *The Black Mountains*; and they well deſerve the Name. Some think 'tis from the unpaſſable Mountains of this County that we have an old Saying, That the Devil lives in the *Middle of Wales*, tho' I know there is another Meaning given to it: in a word, Mr. *Camden* calls theſe Parts, *The* Alps *of* Wales.

There are but few large Towns in all this Part; nor is it very populous; much of it being ſcarce habitable; but, 'tis ſaid, there are more Sheep in it, than in all the reſt of *Wales*. On the Sea Shore, however, we ſaw *Harleigh*, or *Harlech-Caſtle*, which is ſtill a Gariſon, and kept for the Guard of the Coaſt; but 'tis of no other Strength, than what its Situation gives it.

In the Middle of theſe vaſt Mountains (and forming a very large Lake, *viz.* near its firſt Sources) riſes the River *Dee*, of which I ſhall ſpeak again in its proper Place.

Here, among almoſt innumerable Summits, and riſing Peaks of nameleſs Hills, we ſaw the famous *Kader-Idricks*, which, ſome are of Opinion, is the higheſt Mountain in *Britain*; another, called *Rarauvaur*; another, called *Mowywynda*; and ſtill every Hill we ſaw we thought higher than all that ever we had ſeen before.

We inquired here after that ſtrange Phænomenon, which was not only ſeen but fatally experienced by the Country round this Place, namely, of a livid Fire, coming off from the Sea, and ſetting on fire Houſes, Barns, Stacks of Hay and Corn, and poiſoning the Herbage in the Field; of which there is a full Account given in the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*: and as we had it confirmed by the general Voice of the People, I ſhall take notice, That the *Tranſactions* particularly obſerve, that the Eclipſes of the Sun in *Aries* have been very fatal to this Place; and that the Years 1542. and 1567. when the Sun was eclipſed in that Sign, it ſuffered very much by Fire; and after the latter Eclipſe of the two, the Fire ſpread ſo far, that about 200 Houſes in the Town and Suburbs of *Caernarvon* were conſumed.

This mountainous Country runs away North thro' *Merionethſhire*, and almoſt through *Caernarvonſhire*, where *Snowden-hill*, of a monſtrous Height, according to its Name, had Snow on the Top in the Beginning of *June*; but it does not continue the Year round, as ſome have aſſerted.

Theſe unpaſſable Heights were doubtleſs the Refuges of the *Britons*, when, in their continual Wars with the *Romans* and *Saxons*, they were overpowered.

That

That Side of the County of *Caernarvon*, which borders on the Sea, is not ſo mountainous, and is both more fertile, and more populous. The principal Place in this Part is *Caernarvon*, a good Town, with a Caſtle built by *Edward* I. to curb and reduce the wild People of the Mountains, and ſecure the Paſſage into *Angleſea*. That Prince alſo kept his Court often here; and here his Son and eldeſt Succeſſor, *Edward* II. was born, who was therefore called *Edward of Caernarvon*. This *Edward* was the firſt of the Sons of the Kings of *England* veſted with the Title of Prince of *Wales*: and here were kept the Chancery and Exchequer of the Princes of *Wales*, for the North Part of the Principality, as it was at *Caermarthen* for the South Part. It is a ſmall but ſtrong Town, clean and well-built; and, conſidering the Place, the People are very courteous and obliging to Strangers. It is ſeated on the Firth or Inlet called *Meneu*, parting the Iſle of *Angleſea*, or *Mona*, from the main Land; and here is a Ferry over to the Iſland, called *Abermenay-Ferry*: and from thence a direct Road to *Holyhead*, whither we went for no other Purpoſe, than to have another View of *Ireland*; though we were diſappointed, the Weather being bad and ſtormy.

Whoever travels critically over theſe Mountains of *South-Wales* and *Merionethſhire*, will think *Stonehenge* in *Wiltſhire*, and *Rollrich* Stones in *Oxfordſhire*, no more Wonders, ſeeing there are ſo many ſuch in theſe Provinces, that they are not thought ſtrange of at all; nor is it doubted, but they were generally Monuments of the Dead; as alſo are the ſingle Stones of immenſe Bulk, of which we ſaw ſo many, that we gave over remarking them. Some meaſured from 7, 8, to 10, and one 16 Feet high, being a whole Stone, but ſo great, that the moſt of the Wonder is, where they were found, and how

dragged to the Place; ſince, beſides the ſteep Aſcents to ſome of the Hills on which they ſtand, it would be hardly poſſible to move ſome of them now with 50 Yoke of Oxen. And yet a great many of theſe Stones are found confuſedly lying one upon another on the utmoſt Summit or Top of the *Glyder*, and other Hills in *Merioneth*, or *Caernarvonſhire*; to which it is next to impoſſible that all the Power of Art, and Strength of Man and Beaſt, could carry them; and the Vulgar make no Difficulty of ſaying, The Devil ſet them up there.

One of theſe monumental Stones is to be ſeen a little Way from *Harleigh-Caſtle*: it is a large Stone lying flat, ſupported by three other Stones at three of the four Angles, tho' the Stone is rather oval than ſquare; it is almoſt 11 Feet long, the Breadth unequal; but in ſome Places it is from 7 to 8 Feet broad, and it may be ſuppoſed has been both longer and broader; 'tis in ſome Places about two Feet thick, but in others 'tis worn almoſt to an Edge by Time. The three Stones that ſupport it are about 20 Inches ſquare; 'tis ſuppoſed there have been four, two of which, that ſupport the thickeſt End, are near 8 Feet high, the other not above three Feet, being ſuppoſed to be ſettled in the Ground, ſo that the Stone lies ſloping, like the Roof of a Barn. There is another of theſe to be ſeen in the Iſle of *Angleſea*; the flat Stone is much larger and thicker than this; but we did not go to ſee it. There are alſo two Circles of Stones in that Iſland, ſuch as *Stone-henge*, but larger.

This is a particular kind of Monument, and therefore I took notice of it; but the others are generally ſingle Stones of vaſt Magnitude, ſet up on one End, Column-wiſe, which, being ſo very large, are likely to remain till the End of Time: but are generally without any Inſcription, or regular Shape, or any Mark,

Mark, to intimate for whom, or for what, they were ſo placed.

Theſe Mountains are indeed ſo like the *Alps*, that, except the Language of the People, one could hardly avoid thinking he is paſſing from *Grenoble* to *Suſa*, or rather thro' the Country of the *Griſons*. The Lakes alſo, which are ſo numerous here, make the Similitude the greater: nor are the Fables which the Country-people tell of thoſe Lakes much unlike the Stories which we meet with among the *Switzers*, of the famous Lakes in their Country. Mr. *Camden*'s Continuator tells us of 50 or 60 Lakes in *Caernarvonſhire* only. We did not count them; but I believe, if we had, we ſhould have found them to be more, rather than leſs.

Here we meet with the Char-fiſh, the ſame Kind which we ſaw in *Lancaſhire*, and alſo in the Lakes of *Switzerland*, and no-where elſe, that I have heard of, in *Europe*. The *Welſh* call it the *Torgoch*.

In a large Lake in this County, called by the Inhabitants *Lhyn-Tegid*, there is a Fiſh taken called *Gwiniad*, or freſh-water Whiting, which is not found in any other Water in *Britain*, but is alſo common in the Lake of *Geneva*, and ſome others in *Switzerland*. This Fiſh greatly reſembles a Whiting in its outward Appearance, but the Inſide is more like a Herring. The River *Dee*, which riſes above this Lake, runs thro' it; yet, it is very remarkable, none of theſe Fiſh are ever found in the River; and, on the contrary, neither Trout or Salmon are ever ſeen in this Lake, yet the River on both Sides abounds with them.

There is nothing of Note to be ſeen in the Iſle of *Angleſea*, but the Town and the Caſtle of *Beaumaris*, which was alſo built by King *Edward* I. and called *Beau-marſh*, or the *fine Plain*; for here the Country is very level and plain, and the Land is

fruitful

fruitful and pleaſant. The Caſtle was very large, as may be ſeen by its Remains; and that it was ſtrong, the Situation will tell alſo; but it is now of no Uſe.

As we went to *Holyhead*, by the South Part of the Iſland from *Newborough*, and came back thro' the Middle of *Beaumaris*, we ſaw the whole Extent of it; and indeed it is a much pleaſanter Country than any Part of *North-Wales* that we had yet ſeen; and particularly is very fruitful in Corn and Cattle.

Here we croſſed the *Streight* of *Menau* again, and came to *Bangor*, at the Place where King *Edward* I. intended to have built a great Stone Bridge: it would indeed have been a Work fit for ſo great a King; but the Bottom being doubtful, and the Sea in that Place ſometimes very raging and ſtrong, the Workmen thought it impracticable; and though the King was very poſitive in his Deſign for a great while, yet he was prevailed with at laſt to decline it.

Bangor is a Town noted for its Antiquity. It is a Biſhop's See, but has an old, mean-looking, and almoſt deſpicable, Cathedral Church.

This Church boaſts of being one of the moſt antient in *Britain*, the People ſay, the moſt antient; and that St. *Daniel* (to whom it is dedicated) was firſt Biſhop here, in the Year 512. They allow that the Pagans, perhaps of *Angleſea*, ruined the Church, and poſſeſſed the Biſhoprick after it was built, for above one hundred Years; nor is there any Account of it from the Year 512. to 1009. After this, the Biſhoprick was ruined again by one of its own Biſhops, whoſe Name was *Bulkeley*, who, as the *Monaſticon* ſays, not only ſold the Revenues, but even the very Bells; for which Sacrilege, it is ſaid, he was ſtruck blind.

It is certainly at preſent no rich Biſhoprick; yet the Biſhops are generally allowed to hold ſome other good

good Benefice *in Commendam*, and the Preferment ſeems to be a grateful Introduction to the Clergy, as the Biſhops are generally tranſlated from hence to a more profitable one; and very few Gentlemen of the Function have died Biſhops of *Bangor*; ſo that, in ſome Senſe, a Biſhop of this See may be ſaid to be immortal.

From *Bangor* we went North (keeping the Sea on our Left-hand) to *Conway*. This is the pooreſt but pleaſanteſt Town in all this County for the Bigneſs of it: it is ſeated on the Bank of a fine River, which is not only pleaſant and beautiful, but is a noble Harbour for Ships, had they any Occaſion for them there: the Stream is deep and ſafe, and the River broad, as the *Thames* at *Deptford:* it only wants a Trade ſuitable to ſo good a Port; for it infinitely outdoes *Cheſter*, and *Liverpool* too.

In this Paſſage, we went over the famous Precipice called *Penmaen-maur*, which I think Fame has made abundantly more frightful than it is; for tho' the Rock is indeed very high, and, if any one ſhould fall from it, he would be daſhed in Pieces, yet, on the other hand, there is no Danger of it, a Wall being built all the Way, on the Edge of the Precipice, to ſecure Paſſengers: thoſe who have been at the Hill or Paſs of *Enterkin* in *Scotland* know very well the Danger there is much greater than here; and the frequent Loſs of Lives, both of Man and Horſe, will teſtify the ſame.

We have but little remarkable in the Road from *Conway* to *Holywell*, but Crags and Rocks all along the North Shore of *Denbeigh*, till we came to *Denbeigh*, the County-town, which has a Caſtle of great Strength: it is a large, populous Place, and has a good Trade carried on by Tanners and Glovers. This Town bears ſomething in its Countenance of its Neighbourhood

to

to *England*; but that which was moſt ſurpriſing, after ſuch a tireſome and fatiguing Journey over the inhoſpitable Mountains of *Merioneth* and *Caernarvonſhire*, was, that, deſcending now from the Hills, we came into a moſt pleaſant, fruitful, populous, and delicious Vale, full of Villages and Towns, the Fields ſhining with Corn, juſt ready for the Reapers, the Meadows green and flowery, and a fine River, of a mild and gentle Stream, running thro' it: nor is it a ſmall or caſual Intermiſſion, but we had a Proſpect of the Country open before us for above 20 Miles in Length, and from five to ſeven Miles in Breadth, all ſmiling with the ſame kind of Complexion; which made us think ourſelves in *England* again, by the agreeable Change of Climate.

In this pleaſant Vale, turning North from *Denbeigh*, and following the Stream of the River, we came to *St. Aſaph*, in *Flintſhire*, a ſmall City, with a Cathedral, being a Biſhoprick of tolerable good Value, though the Church is old: it is but a poor Place, and ill-built, altho' the Country is ſo pleaſant and rich all round it. There are ſome old Monuments in this Church; but none of any Note; nor could we read the *Welſh* Inſcriptions.

From hence we came to *Holywell:* the Story of it is, that the pious Virgin, St. *Winifrid*, being raviſhed and murdered, this healing Water ſprung out of her Body when buried. The *Romaniſts* believe it, as 'tis evident, from their thronging hither to receive Benefit from the healing Virtue of the Water, which they do not hope for as medicinal, but as miraculous; and think it heals them by virtue of the Interceſſion and Influence of this famous Virgin, St. *Winifrid*.

The Chapel dedicated to this Holy Virgin is cut out of a ſolid Rock, and Numbers of Pilgrims reſort to it, with great Devotion. Under this Chapel, the Water guſhes out into a great Stream, and the Place where

where it breaks out, is formed like a Baſin or Ciſtern, in which they bathe. The Water is intenſely cold, and indeed there is no great Miracle in that Point, conſidering the Rocks it flows from, where it is impregnated by divers Minerals; the Virtue of which, and not of the Saint, I ſuppoſe, works the greateſt Part of the Cures, that may be ſuppoſed to be effected there.

There is a little Town near the Well, which may indeed be ſaid to have riſen from the Confluence of People thither; for almoſt all the Houſes are either Publick-houſes, or let into Lodgings; and the Prieſts who attend here, and are very numerous, appear in Diſguiſe: ſometimes they are Phyſicians, ſometimes Surgeons, ſometimes Gentlemen, and ſometimes Patients, or any thing, as Occaſion preſents. Nobody takes notice of them, as to their Religion, tho' they are well known, no not the *Roman Catholicks* themſelves; but in private they have their proper Oratories in certain Places, whither the Votaries reſort; and good Manners have prevailed ſo far, that no Proteſtant, let him know what he will, takes notice of it, or inquires where one goes, or has been gone.

The principal Towns in *Flintſhire* are, 1. *Flint*, the Shire-town, but ſo ſmall, that it has not a Market. 2. *St. Aſaph*, before-mentioned. 3. *Caerwys*, the chief Market-town of the County.

From hence we paſſed by *Flint-Caſtle*, a known Place, but of no Conſequence now; and directly to *Wrexham*, deemed the largeſt Town in *North-Wales*, having heard much of a fine Church there; but we were greatly diſappointed. There is indeed a very large Tower or Steeple, as ſome call it, adorned with Imagery; but far from fine: the Work is mean, the Statues without any Fancy or Spirit; and as the Stone is of a reddiſh, crumbling Kind, like the Cathedral

thedral at *Cheſter*, Time has made it look groſs and rough.

There are a great many antient Monuments in this Church, and in the Church-yard alſo; but none of Note; and almoſt all the Inſcriptions are in *Welſh*. The Church is large; but they muſt be much miſtaken, who tell us 'tis one of the fineſt in *England*; for it falls ſhort in that reſpect, even of thoſe Churches which are as old as itſelf.

This Town is large, well-built, and populous; and, beſides the Church, there are two large Meeting-houſes, in one of which, we were told, they preach in *Welſh* one Part of the Day, and in *Engliſh* the other. Here is a great Market for Flannel, which the Factors buy up of the poor *Welſh* People, who manufacture it; and thence it is ſent to *London*; and is a conſiderable Manufacture through all this Part of the Country, by which the Poor are very profitably employed.

We could not omit ſeeing the once famous *Banchor*, which *Malmsbury* confounds with the epiſcopal *Bangor*; and were pleaſed to ſee there a fine Stone Bridge over the *Dee*. This was once a City, and the Monaſtery was ſo famous, that in the Time of the *Britiſh* Kings it was ſaid to contain 2400 Monks, who in their Turns (*viz.* 100 each Hour of the 24) reading Prayers and ſinging Pſalms continually, Divine Service was performed Day and Night without Intermiſſion. But now not ſo much as the Ruins are to be ſeen; and as all the People in the little Village, that takes place of it, ſpoke *Welſh*, we could find nobody that could give us any Intelligence. So effectually had Time eraſed the very Foundations of the Place.

This is ſaid to be the Birth-place of that Arch-heretick *Pelagius*, who from hence began to broach his heretical Opinions, which afterwards ſo terribly over-

overſpread the Church. *Camden* obſerves, that this *Bangor* is ſituated in the County of *Flint*.

But before I have intirely done with the Principality, give me leave to obſerve briefly a few things with relation to this Journey, and the Gentlemen of *Wales*.

Tho' this Journey, and eſpecially over ſuch monſtrous Hills and Precipices, as thoſe in *Merioneth* and ſome other Shires, was a little heavy to us, yet were we well ſupported thro' it; for we generally found their Proviſions very good and cheap, and pretty good Accommodations in the Inns.

The *Welſh* Gentlemen are very hoſpitable; and the People in general very obliging and converſable, eſpecially to Strangers. When we let them know we traveled merely in Curioſity to view the Country, their Civility was heightened to ſuch a Degree, that nothing could be more friendly; and they were willing to tell us every thing that belonged to their Country, and to ſhew us all that we deſired to ſee.

They value themſelves much upon their antient Heroes, as *Caractacus*, *Owen ap Tudor*, Prince *Llewellin*; and particularly upon the Antiquity of their Families; and laugh at a Pedigree that cannot be traced higher than the Conqueſt. It muſt be owned, that the Gentlemen juſtly claim a very antient Deſcent, and have preſerved their Families intire for many Ages. They receive you well into their Houſes, treat you very handſomely, are very generous; and, indeed, nothing is wanting within-doors; and, what is more, they have generally very good Eſtates to ſupport their Hoſpitality; but they are very jealous of Affronts, and ſoon provoked to Anger, which is ſeldom allayed without Satisfaction; and then become as ſoon reconciled again.

I will now put an End to this Letter, with aſſuring you, that I am, &c.

LET-

LETTER VII.

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION *of Part of* Cheſhire, Northamptonſhire, *and* Leiceſterſhire.

SIR,

IContinued at *Cheſter* for ſome time, except that I made two or three Excurſions into the neighbouring Country, and particularly into that Part of *Shropſhire* which I had not viewed as I went; as alſo into the North and North-weſt Parts of *Cheſhire*. But I ſhould firſt acquaint you, that *Malpas*, thro' which I came from *Wales*, is ſituate on a high Hill, and was formerly ſtrengthened by a Caſtle, which is now in Ruins. The Church is a ſtately Building, and ſtands on the moſt eminent Part of the Town: it has two Rectors, who do Duty alternately. The Town conſiſts of three Streets, and is well paved; has a good Market, a Grammar-ſchool, and an Hoſpital.

The firſt Trip I made was into the *Ceſtrica Cherſoneſus*, as I think we may properly call it: it is bounded by the two great Firths, or Arms of the Sea, the one called the Mouth of the *Dee*, and the other of the

two

two Rivers *Merſey* and *Weaver*, which form it into a Peninſula. It is about 16 Miles long, ſix or ſeven over, and has not one Market-town in it, tho' it is exceeding rich and fertile; occaſioned poſſibly by the Neighbourhood of two ſuch great Towns as *Cheſter* and *Liverpool*.

Going down from *Cheſter*, by the *Rhoodee*, as they call it, that is, the Marſhes of the River *Dee*, and coaſting the River after it is grown broader than the Marſhes, the firſt Place of any Note which we come to is *Neſſon*, where, in the late *Iriſh* War, moſt of the Troops embarked for that grand Expedition: from hence the Veſſels go away to *Highlake*, where they ride ſafe in their Way, as the Ships from *London* lie in the *Downs*, till the Wind preſents for their reſpective Voyages.

But to return to *Cheſter*: It is a fine old City and Colony of the *Romans*; and many Antiquities have been found in it: nay, it is evident from the Inſcriptions of ſeveral Altars and Coins found in and about this City, with the Names and Titles of *Julius Cæſar*, &c. that the *Legio* XX. called *Victrix*, was here quartered. The Wall, which ſurrounds the City, is two Miles in Circumference, affording a delightful Walk round, and ſaid to be built by the noble *Mercian* Lady *Edelfleda*, in the Year 908. *Cheſter* has nine Churches, including the Cathedral, which is a Pile venerable for Antiquity, but in no extraordinary Condition. There are Shadows of many Pictures on the Wall, but defaced. At the Weſt End, in Niches, are ſome Images of the Earls Palatine of *Cheſter*. The adjoining Abbey is quite ruined. The Walls round the City are kept in very good Repair, at the Charge of the Corporation, and afford a pleaſant, airy Walk. The Exchange is a neat Building, ſupported by Columns 13 Feet high, of one Stone each. Over it is the City-hall, a well-contrived Court of Judicature.

The

The Caſtle was formerly the Palace, where the Earls aſſembled their Parliaments, and enacted Laws independent of the Kings of *England*, determining all Cauſes themſelves. It has always a Gariſon kept in it. The Piazzas or Rows, as they call them, do not, in my Opinion, add any thing to the Beauty of the City; but, on the contrary, ſerve to make it look both old and indifferent. Theſe *Rows* are certain long Galleries, up one Pair of Stairs, which run along the Side of the Streets, before all the Houſes, tho' joined to them; and, as is pretended, they are to keep the People dry in walking along. This they do indeed effectually; but then they take away all the View of the Houſes from the Street; nor can a Stranger, that was to ride thro' *Cheſter*, ſee any Shops in the City: beſides, they make the Shops themſelves dark; and the Way in them is dark, dirty, and uneven. It ſends two Members to Parliament.

The beſt Ornament of the City is, that the Streets are very broad and fair, and run thro' the whole City in ſtrait Lines, croſſing in the middle of it, as at *Chicheſter*. The Walls afford a very pleaſant Walk, as I have ſaid, round the City, and within the Battlements, from whence you may ſee the circumjacent Country, and particularly on the Side of the *Rhoodee*, which is a fine large low Green, on the Bank of the *Dee*, which in Winter is often under Water by the Inundations of the River. Beyond the *Rhoodee*, may be ſeen from the Walls of *Cheſter* the County of *Flint*, and the Mountains of *Wales*.

The Caſtle is a good firm Building, and ſtrong, tho' not fortified with many Outworks: there is always a good Gariſon kept in it. 'Tis ſaid this Caſtle was built, or at leaſt repaired, by *Hugh Lupus*, the famous Earl of *Cheſter*, Nephew to *William the Conqueror*, as was alſo the Church; the Body of whom was lately (in the Year 1723.) diſcovered, as is ſuppoſed,

posed, in an old ruinous Building, called, The Chapter-house.

It was first wrapped in Leather, and then inclosed in a Stone Coffin. The Skull and all the Bones were very fresh, and in their proper Position; and, what is more remarkable, the String which tied the Ankles together was whole and intire, altho' it was then upwards of 650 Years since the Interrment.

Chester is but a modern Bishoprick, being so made in the Year 1541. when King *Henry* VIII. divided it from *Lichfield*. They tell us, that King *Edgar*, who conquered all this Part of *Britain*, and was rowed up the *Dee*, in his Royal Barge, by seven, or, as some say, eight, Kings, himself steering the Helm, founded the great Church, which *Lupus* finished and endowed.

Here is a noble Stone Bridge over the *Dee*, very high and strong-built; and 'tis needful it should be so; for the *Dee* is a most furious Stream at some Seasons, and brings a vast Weight of Water with it from the Mountains of *Wales*.

Chester has long given Title of Earl to the Prince of *Wales*, eldest Son of the King.

Chester was formerly an Harbour for Shipping; but the Sea had long ago withdrawn itself; and the River *Dee* was so choaked up, that Vessels of Burden could not come within some Miles of it; so that an Act of Parliament passed in the Year 1732. for rendering it navigable. And, in pursuance thereof, the Undertakers raised a Sum of 47,830 *l.* which they have expended in cutting and perfecting a new Chanel for the River *Dee*, of near 10 Miles in Length, and in making proper Dams and Sluices, into which they have turned the said River; so that it is actually navigable at this time for Ships and Vessels of considerable Burdens to the Quay, or Key, of *Chester*, where they load and unload Goods and Merchandize. This

Succes

Succeſs encouraged the Undertakers to apply to Parliament (1740-1.) for further Powers to complete the ſame, and for uniting the ſaid Undertakers into a Company for that laudable Purpoſe.

This County, tho' ſo remote from *London*, is one of thoſe which contributes much to its Support, as well as to that of ſeveral other Parts of *England*, by its excellent Cheeſe, which they make here in ſuch Quantities, that, as I am told from very good Authority, the City of *London* alone takes off 14,000 Tons every Year; beſides vaſt Quantities which they ſend to *Briſtol* and *York*, and alſo to *Scotland* and *Ireland*; ſo that the Quantity of Cheeſe made here muſt be prodigiouſly great. Indeed the whole County is employed in it, and Part of its Neighbourhood too; for though it goes by the Name of *Cheſhire Cheeſe*, yet great Quantities of it are made in ſuch Parts of *Shropſhire*, *Staffordſhire*, and *Lancaſhire*, as border upon *Cheſhire*.

The Soil is extraordinarily good, and the Graſs has a peculiar Richneſs in it, which diſpoſes the Kine to give a great Quantity of Milk, which is very ſweet and good; and this Cheeſe Manufacture increaſes every Day, raiſes the Value of the Lands, and encourages the Farmers to keep vaſt Stocks of Cows; which of themſelves contribute to improve and enrich the Land.

While we were ſtationed, as I may ſay, at *Cheſter*, I made a Trip to ſeveral Places round about it; and particularly to the fine old Seat of the Lord *Delamere*, and the ſpacious Foreſt which gives Title to that noble Family. They ſay here was formerly an old City, now called the *Chamber on the Foreſt*, probably ſome Fort or Camp to ſecure the Road. From hence is ſo fine a Proſpect of the *Welſh* Mountains, that I never before beheld ſuch a noble Scene of Nature. This Foreſt is noted for great Plenty of Red

and

and Fallow Deer, and is a great Relief, for Fiſh, Fowl, and Turf, to the neighbouring Towns, whereof there are a great many ſmall ones about this Foreſt, and thro' the upper Part of it the *Weaver* takes its Courſe. The chief Town hereabout is *Frodeſham*, formerly famous for a Caſtle, and the Seat of the Family of the *Savages*, which however is but a mean Market-town. Near this Place is alſo the famous Seat of *Rock-Savage*, built on the Aſcent of an Hill belonging to the ſame Family, whereof the laſt was the late Earl *Rivers*.

On the South-ſide of the Park ſtands *Beeſton* Caſtle, upon an Hill environed with Mountains, and yet overlooks almoſt the whole County. It is very ſtrong, covers a great Extent of Ground, and is adorned with many Towers. It gives Name to an antient Family in this County.

From *Cheſter* we kept directly on Eaſt to *Middlewich*, a large Market-town, with a ſpacious Church, but chiefly noted for making Salt; where are two excellent Brine-ſeeths.

We followed the *Weaver* directly North to *Northwich*, alſo famous for Brine-ſprings, and for making great Quantities of the fineſt Salt, by boiling the Water in large Iron Pans of ſmall Depth. As faſt as the Salt cryſtallizes, they rake it out, and dry it in wicker Baſkets of a conick Form. The Duty it brings in is very conſiderable.

Within theſe 60 Years, on the South-ſide of the Town, they diſcovered a great many Mines of Rock-ſalt, which they continually dig up, and ſend in great Lumps to the maritim Ports, where it is diſſolved, and made into eating Salt. We were let down by a Bucket 150 Feet deep to the Bottom of the Salt-quarry, a moſt pleaſant ſubterraneous Proſpect, looking like a Cathedral ſupported by Rows of Pillars, and Roof of Cryſtal, all of the ſame Rock, tranſpa-

rent and glittering from the numerous Candles of the Workmen, labouring with their Steel Pick-axes in digging it away. This Rock-work extends to ſeveral Acres.

There is a good Church at *Northwich*, with a fine Roof, and ſemicircular Choir.

At *Lawton-yeates* they bore 60 Yards deep for the Salt-Spring; at *Haſſal* 47; at *Wheelock* 18; about *Middlewich* leſs; at *Northwich* it riſes to open Day; which ſeems to intimate, that the Salt-Spring runs between Layers of the Earth in an horizontal Line. Upon Boring, it riſes with great Impetuoſity, ſo that the Workmen have ſcarce time to get out of the Wells. This is all along the Side of a Brook that comes from a remarkable Hill called *Mawcop*, upon the Edge of *Staffordſhire*; ſo that the Ground riſes above the true Level in the mentioned Proportion.

From *Northwich* we traveled North-eaſt, and came to *Knutsford*, a good Town, and finely ſituated. A Brook runs thro' it, and divides it into two. It has a Market and Town-houſe, and a pretty good parochial Church.

Altringham and *Stockport*, two ſmall Market-towns, lie higher up Northward, the firſt near, and the other upon, the Borders of *Lancaſhire*.

Stockport is a Town of good Entertainment, lying in a Valley by the River *Merſey*: the Bridge over this River was blown up, to prevent the Retreat of the Rebels in 1745. ſo that the King's Forces, in Purſuit of them, were obliged to ford it up to their Middles; and the Soldiers Wives did the ſame.

I reſerve to another Place the Account of the Riſe, Progreſs, and Extinction of that Rebellion.

Macclesfield is ſituate by the River *Bollen*, in the Foreſt of the ſame Name, a Town of great Antiquity, and very fair and ſpacious. 'Tis under the Government of a Mayor, and enjoys many particu-

lar

lar Privileges by virtue of the Court and Liberties of the Foreſt. It has a good Church with an high Spire-Steeple, and a College adjoining to it, in which are buried a great many of the Family of the *Savages*: and here is alſo a good Free-ſchool, and a thriving Manufacture of Mohair Buttons.

From hence we turned about, and came South-weſt to *Congleton*, near the Borders of *Staffordſhire*. The Middle of this Town is watered by the little Brook *Howly*; the Eaſt-ſide by the *Daning Schow*; and the North by the *Dan*. Altho', in conſideration of its Populouſneſs and Trade (Part of which is in Gloves and Mohair Buttons), it is governed by a Mayor and ſix Aldermen, yet it has only one Chapel in it, and that intirely of Wood, excepting the Choir, and a little Tower. It has a very plentiful Market; and is well watered, as I have obſerved, on all Sides.

After paſſing the *Bollen*, we ſee on every Side in the large Foreſt of *Macclesfield* the Pits where they dig Turf in Squares, like Bricks; and in theſe Pits nothing is more common than to ſee Fir-trees buried from 10 to 20 Feet deep, which the Men who work here dig up for various Uſes; but chiefly for Splinters, which are very reſinous, and when lighted ſerve the Poor for Candles.

I proceeded to the Market-town of *Sandbach*, which is delightfully ſituated on a Branch of the *Weaver*. It has a fair Church, and in the Market-place ſtand two Croſſes of Stone, with the Hiſtory of *Chriſt*'s Paſſion ingraven on them. The Ale here is deſervedly famed.

From *Sandbach* we went on Southward, and came to the great *London* Road at *Namptwich*, which ſtands upon it. This Town is well-built, and the Streets look fair, having a great many Gentlemens Houſes in them. The Church is a noble Edifice in the Form of a Croſs, with the Steeple riſing from the Middle;

but the Maintenance of the Miniſter is mean and pitiful. The Inhabitants are rich, and carry on a good Trade in moſt Sorts of Commodities, but principally in making Salt and Cheeſe, the latter exceeding all that is made in the County, as the Soil this Way is eſteemed the beſt, and, as 'tis ſaid, was called by King *Edward* I. *The Vale Royal.*

Thus having made my Circuit round the County, I ſhall go from hence South to *Whitchurch* in *Shropſhire.* But I muſt firſt note two things of *Cheſhire:* 1. That there is no Part of *England* where there are equal Numbers of Gentry, of ſuch antient Extraction: Mr. *Camden* is very particular in their Names and Deſcents, to whom therefore I muſt refer. 2. That it is a County *Palatine*, and has been ſo for many Ages; and its Government is diſtinct from any other, and very particular; it is adminiſtred by a *Chamberlain*, a *Judge Special*, who is called *Chief Juſtice* of *Cheſter*, two *Barons* of the *Exchequer*, three *Sergeants at Law*, a *Sheriff*, an *Attorney*, an *Eſcheator*, and all proper and uſual ſubordinate Officers; and the Juriſdiction of all theſe Offices is kept up, and preſerved very ſtrictly; only we are to note, that the *Judge Special*, as he is called, tries only civil Cauſes, not criminal, which are left to the ordinary Judges of *England*, who go the Circuits here, as in other Places.

Whitchurch is a pleaſant, large, and populous Town, and has a very good Church, in which is the famous Monument of the great *Talbot*, firſt Earl of *Shrewſbury*, who was called in his Time the *Engliſh* ACHILLES, and who was ſo renowned in the Wars in *France*, that no Man in that Kingdom dared to encounter him ſingle-handed. He had ingraven on one Side of his Sword, in rude *Latin*, *Sum Talboti*, and on the Reverſe, *Pro vincere inimicos meos.* His Epitaph is as follows:

ORATE

ORATE PRO ANIMA PRÆNOBILIS DOMINI, DOMINI IOHANNIS TALBOTT, QVONDAM COMITIS SALOPIÆ, DOMINI TALBOTT, DOMINI FVRNIVALL, DOMINI VERDON, DOMINI STRANGE DE BLACKMERE, ET MARESCHALLI FRANCIÆ, QVI OBIIT IN BELLO APVD BVRDEWS VII. IVLII MCCCCLIII.

This Town has a good Market, and a great many Gentry near it, whereof ſome are *Roman catholicks*. They tell us, that this Town, when King *Charles* I. removed his Standard from *Nottingham* to *Shrewſbury*, raiſed a whole Regiment for his Service.

From hence we turned South, and paſſing by *Wem*, the Title given by King *James* II. to his Lord Chancellor *Jefferies*, thence we came to *Elſmere*, which gives Title of Baron to the Duke of *Bridgwater*, and is famous for a great Lake or Mere, which gives the Town its Name, and which the People pretend has in ſome Places no Bottom. This Place is remarkable for good Fiſh.

Cloſe by the Side of this *Mere* is an antient Seat of the *Kynaſtons*: the Houſe appears to be very old, and ſtands low; but the Park is a very fine one, having the greateſt Quantity of the largeſt Elm-trees perhaps to be ſeen in any Part of *England*; and, ſome few Years ſince, it was as well ſtocked with Oaks; but as I was informed by a neighbouring Gentleman, there had been eight thouſand Pounds worth of Timber ſold a few Years ago.

And farther on, Weſt, on the Confines of *Denbighſhire*, ſtands *Oſweſtry*, a Bailiwick Market-town, formerly famous for the Sale of *Welſh* Cottons and

Flanels, but now only for the laſt; and of theſe there are not many at preſent exported; ſo that there is ſcarce any Trade in the Town; nor is there one tolerable Houſe to entertain Travelers, ſo that we were obliged to ſeek for better Quarters. The Town is incloſed with a Wall and a Ditch, and fortified with a Caſtle, and has a good Church without the Gate, covered with Lead. From hence we came the ſame Night to *Shrewſbury*.

Shrewſbury is ſuppoſed to have been built out of the Ruins of the antient *Uriconium*. In the Reign of *William* the Conqueror, *Roger* Earl of *Montgomery* built a Caſtle here, on the North Side, and a ſtately Abbey, called *St. Giles's*, or *The Holy Croſs*, at the Eaſt End (of great Note for being the Repoſitory of St. *Winifrid*'s Body), ſome Ruins of which are ſtill to be ſeen. It is a beautiful, large, pleaſant, populous, and rich Town; full of Gentry, and of Trade too; for here is a great Manufacture, as well of Flanel as of white Broad-cloth, which enriches all the Country round it.

The *Severn* in part ſurrounds this Town, juſt as the *Thames* does the *Iſle of Dogs*; ſo that it makes the Form of an Horſe-ſhoe. Over it are two fine Stone Bridges, upon one of which is built a very noble Gate, and, over the Arch of the Gate, the Statue of the great *Llewellin*, the Idol of the *Welſh*, and their laſt Prince of *Wales*; this being the Place where the antient Princes of *Powis-land*, or *North Wales*, kept their Reſidence.

This is really a Town of Mirth and Gallantry, ſomething like *Bury* in *Suffolk*, or *Durham* in the North, but much bigger than either of them, or indeed than both together.

Over the Market-houſe is kept a kind of Hall for the Manufactures, which are ſold here weekly in very

very great Quantities: they ſpeak all *Engliſh* in the Town, but on a Market-day you would think you were in *Wales*.

Here is the largeſt Market, the greateſt Plenty of good Proviſions, and the cheapeſt, that is to be met with in all the Weſtern Part of *England*. The *Severn* ſupplies them here with excellent Salmon; but 'tis alſo brought in great Plenty from the *Dee*, which is not far off, and abounds with a very good Kind, and is generally larger than in the *Severn*. As an Example of the Cheapneſs of Proviſions, we paid here, in a publick Inn, but a Groat a Night for Hay, and Six-pence a Peck for Oats, for our Horſes, which is cheaper than we found it in the cheapeſt Part of the North of *England*; all our other Proviſions were in Proportion; and there is no doubt but the Cheapneſs of Proviſions, joined to the Pleaſantneſs and Healthineſs of the Place, draws a great many Families hither, who love to live within the Compaſs of their Eſtates.

The Market-days are *Wedneſday* and *Saturday*; beſides a great Market on *Thurſdays*, ſolely for the Traffick of *Welſh* Cloth, carried on by the Company of Drapers of this Town; and ſix annual Fairs, held *June* 22. *Aug.* 1. *Sept.* 21. *Dec.* 1. *Wedneſday* after *Eaſter* Week, and *Wedneſday* before *Whitſuntide*.

Mr. *Camden* calls it a City: and 'tis indeed equal to ſeveral good Cities in *England*, and ſuperior to ſome. Near this Place was fought the bloody Battle between *Henry Hotſpur* and *Henry* IV. King of *England*, in which the former was killed, and all his Army overthrown; and the Place is called *Battle-field* to this Day.

Here are five Churches, two of them with lofty Spires. *St. Chad*'s and *St. Mary*'s are ſaid to have been antiently collegiate. There are abundance of

antique Monuments in them all, which I have not room to mention.

All the Pariſhes, except *St. Mary*'s, which is a Royal Peculiar, are in the Dioceſe of *Lichfield* and *Coventry*. The Town was incorporated by King *Henry* I. and the Government of it is placed in a Mayor, Recorder, Steward, 24 Aldermen, and 48 Common-councilmen; and it returns two Members to Parliament.

This Town will for ever be famous for the Reception it gave to King *Charles* I. who, after ſetting up his Standard at *Nottingham*, and finding no Encouragement there, removed to *Shrewſbury*, being invited by the Gentry of the Town and Country round, where he was received with ſuch a general Affection, and hearty Zeal, that his Majeſty recovered himſelf from the Diſcouragement of his firſt Step at *Nottingham*, and raiſed and completed a ſtrong Army in leſs Time than could be imagined; inſomuch that, to the Surprize of the Parliament, and indeed of all the World, he was in the Field before them, and advanced upon them ſo faſt, that he met them Two-thirds onward of his Way to *London*, and gave them Battle at *Edge-hill* near *Banbury*.

But the Fate of the War turning afterwards againſt the King, the Weight of it fell heavy upon this Town, and almoſt ruined it.

But they are now fully recovered, and it is one of the moſt flouriſhing Towns in *England*. The Walls and Gates are yet ſtanding, but uſeleſs; and the old Caſtle is gone to Ruin, as is the Caſe of almoſt all the old Caſtles in *England*.

It ſhould not be forgotten, that, notwithſtanding the Healthineſs of the Place, here broke out firſt that unaccountable Plague, called, *The Sweating Sickneſs*, *Anno* 1551. which ſpread itſelf through the whole

whole Kingdom, and afterwards into ſeveral foreign Nations.

Here is a good Free-ſchool, the moſt conſiderable in this Part of *England*; founded by King *Edward* VI. and endowed by Queen *Elizabeth*, with a very ſufficient Maintenance for a Chief or Head-maſter, and three Under-maſters or Uſhers. The Buildings, which are of Stone, are very ſpacious, particularly the Library, which has a great many Books in it. The Schoolmaſters have alſo very handſome Houſes to dwell in; ſo that the Whole has the Face of a College.

Here I was ſhewn a very viſible and remarkable Appearance of the great antient Road or Way called *Watling-ſtreet*, which comes from *London* to this Town, and goes on from hence to the utmoſt Coaſt of *Wales*. Remains of a Stone Bridge are to be ſeen in the Bottom of the River, when the Water is low. This Road is raiſed a good Height above the Soil, and ſo ſtrait, that upon an Eminence you may ſee it 10 or 15 Miles before you, and as much behind, over many Hill-tops anſwering one the other as a Viſta of Trees.

We lodged at an Inn called *Iveſey-bank*, on the Borders between *Staffordſhire* and *Shropſhire*. About a Mile off in a large Wood ſtands *Boſcobel-houſe*, or *White-Ladies*, as ſome call it, where the *Pendrils* lived, who preſerved King *Charles* II. after *Worceſter* Battle, and famous for the Royal Oak. The Granddaughter of that *William Pendril* ſtill lived in the Houſe, when I was there. The Floor of the Garret, which is a Popiſh Chapel (formerly a Nunnery in Poſſeſſion of the Family of *Cookſey*), being matted, prevents any Suſpicion of a little Cavity with a Trap-door over the Stair-caſe where the King was hid. His Bed was artfully placed behind ſome Wainſcot, that ſhut up very cloſe. A Deſcendent of the *Cook-*

ſeys ſtill keeps the Gloves and Garters, which his Majeſty left behind him.

The ſaid Chapel is ſtill ſtanding, and has ſome painted Saints upon the Wall at one End.

A Bow-ſhot from the Houſe, juſt by an Horſe-track paſſing thro' the Wood, ſtood the Royal Oak, into which the King and Colonel *Carlos* climbed, by means of the Hen-rooſt Ladder, when they thought it no longer ſafe to ſtay in the Houſe, the Family reaching them Victuals with the Nut-hook. It happened, as the People related it to us, that whilſt the King and Colonel were in the Tree, a Party of the Enemy's Horſe, ſent to ſearch the Houſe, came whiſtling and talking along this Road; and, when they were juſt under the Tree, an Owl flew out of a neighbouring Tree, and hovered along the Ground, as if her Wings were broken, which the Soldiers merrily purſued.

The Tree is now incloſed within a Brick Wall, the Inſide whereof is covered with Laurel, of which we may ſay, as *Ovid* did of that of the *Auguſtan* Palace,— *Mediamque tuebere quercum.* For the Oak is in the Middle, almoſt cut away by Travelers, whoſe Curioſity leads them to ſee it. Cloſe by the Side grows a young thriving Plant from one of its Acorns.

After the Reſtoration, the King, reviewing the Place, no doubt, with very different Emotions from what he had when he was in it, gathered ſome of the Acorns, and ſet them in *St. James*'s Park or Garden, and uſed to water them himſelf. If we may judge of the Value the King put upon his Preſervation and Royal Perſon, it was worth 200 *l. per Annum*, and one ſhould think a King, if worth any thing, worth that; for ſo much he gave to *Pendril*, and it now remains in the Family. Over the Door of the Incloſure is this Inſcription cut in Marble:

Feli-

Felicissimam arborem, quam in asylum potentissimi Regis Caroli II. *Deus O. M. per quem Reges regnant, hic crescere voluit, tam in perpetuam rei tantæ memoriam, quam specimen firmæ in Reges fidei, muro cinctam posteris commendant* Basilius & Jana Fitzherbert.

Quercus amica Jovi.

That is,

Basil and *Jane Fitzherbert* recommend to Posterity this most fortunate Tree, which the All-gracious and Almighty God, by whom Kings reign, ordained here to grow, to be the Asylum of the most potent Prince King *Charles* II. and have begirt with a Wall, as well in perpetual Remembrance of so great an Event, as a Testimony of their firm Allegiance to Kings.

—The Oak belov'd by *Jove.*

Ten Miles South-east of *Shrewsbury* stands *Great Wenlock*, a good Market-town, mentioned *p.* 341. The noted *Wreken-hill* stands higher up, North of it, between the *Watling-street* and the *Severn*, and within a Mile of *Wroxeter*, the famous *Roman* Station. It ascends gradually from a pleasant level Ground, strikes out a pretty great Length, and is well adorned with Trees. 'Tis the highest Ground in all the County, and gives a fine Prospect all around it.

North of this, about eight Miles Distance, is a fine Seat belonging to Sir *Rowland Hill*, Bart. The House, which is built in a very good Taste, standing low, is not seen from the Road; but the Hill, which stands above the House, and fronts the *Wreken*, is made very beautiful, by cutting away the Rocks, and forming them into Bastions, and regular Gothick Buildings, with the same Stone; and here is a fine Vineyard planted in Terraces, which over-

looks the Country beyond *Shrewſbury*, in which the Grapes generally ripen as ſoon as in moſt Parts of *England*; which is owing to its Situation, it being defended on every Side, and opens only to the South.

This Vineyard is ſeen from *Shrewſbury*, which is upward of 10 Miles.

Near this are the Remains of an antient Fortification called *Red-caſtle*, the Walls of which are yet ſtanding: it is ſituated on an high Hill, which commands the Country on every Side; and is ſurrounded by a deep Ditch, which, tho' in ſome Places almoſt filled up, may be plainly traced. The Walls of the Caſtle are built with a red ſort of Brick, and are very thick. In ſeveral Places are ſmall Cells, juſt large enough to contain a ſingle Perſon; and in the Middle is a deep Well. I could not meet with any Perſon who could give me any Account of this Caſtle.

Following the *Watling-ſtreet* North, we came to a ſmall Market-town called *Wellington*, of very little Note; and ſtill keeping *the Street*, we arrived at *Newport* on the Borders of *Staffordſhire*, a little Market-town, where is one of the nobleſt Foundations for a School in the whole Kingdom, endowed by one *Adams*, an Haberdaſher of *London*, to the Value of 7000 *l.* The School is 70 Feet long, 22 wide, and the ſame in Height, a Library, an Houſe for both the Maſter and Uſher, 60 *l.* a Year to the firſt, and 30 *l.* to the other, and a Garden to each Houſe of an Acre, and two Acres for the Boys to play in. Near it he has likewiſe built an Alms-houſe, and gave 550 *l.* towards building the Town-houſe. Over the School-door, is this Diſtich:

Scripſiſti hæredem patriam, tibi quæ dedit ortum:
Scriberis ergo tuæ jure pater patriæ.

That is,

Thy Country is thy Heir: and therefore we
Juſtly eſteem thy Country's Parent Thee.

Between

Between this Town and *Drayton*, a ſmall Market-town, higher up Northward, and likewiſe on the Borders of *Staffordſhire*, is *Bloreheath*, famous for a Battle fought between the Houſe of *York* and that of *Lancaſter*, wherein *Nevil* Earl of *Saliſbury* for the former, with 5000 Men only, beat Lord *Audley* with 10,000 Men, after a moſt bloody Engagement.

Entering *Staffordſhire*, we quitted the ſaid *Street-way*, a little to the Left, to ſee *Stafford*, the County-town, and the moſt conſiderable, except *Lichfield*, in the County. In the Way, we paſſed thro' a ſmall but antient Town, called *Penkrige*, vulgarly *Pankrage*, probably the *Pennocrucium* of the *Romans*, where happened to be a Fair. We were ſurpriſed to ſee the prodigious Number of the fineſt and moſt beautiful Horſes that can any-where be ſeen, brought hither from *Yorkſhire*, the Biſhoprick of *Durham*, and all the Horſe-breeding Counties in *England:* we were told there were not leſs than an hundred Jockeys or Horſe-kopers, as they call them there, from *London*, to buy Horſes for Sale. Alſo an incredible Number of Gentlemen attended with their Grooms, to buy Hunters, and good Road-horſes. In a word, I believe I may mark it for the greateſt Horſe-fair in the World, for Horſes of Value, and eſpecially thoſe we call Saddle-horſes; tho' there were great Numbers of fine large Stone-horſes for Coach and Draught too.

From hence we came in two Hours eaſy Riding to *Stafford*, on the River *Sow*. 'Tis an antient Town, and gives Name to the County. It is neat and well-built, and pleaſantly ſeated in low Grounds, and is lately much increaſed, and grown rich by the Clothing-trade. It is governed by a Mayor, and other inferior Officers, conſiſts of two Pariſhes, and returns two Members to Parliament. 'Tis ſaid this

Town

Town retains the antient Cuſtom of *Borough Engliſh*, which is, that the youngeſt Sons inherit the Lands of their Fathers within the Town. It is adorned with two Churches; one of which is very large and ſpacious; and a Free-ſchool: the Streets are clean, and well-paved; the Buildings of Stone and Slate; and ſome of the Structures are very modiſh and beautiful. Its Market-place is large and uniform; in wnich ſtands the Shire-hall, where the Aſſizes for the County are held. King *John* made it a Corporation, and *Edward* VI. confirmed and inlarged the Charter. About a Mile and half out of the Town, upon an Hill, we ſaw the Ruins of an antient Caſtle, belonging heretofore to the Barons of *Stafford*; but it was demoliſhed in the Civil Wars. This Hill affords a moſt pleaſant Proſpect of the Town, and adjacent Country.

We tarried here a few Days, in order to viſit the Towns lying on each Side of it with more Attention and Convenience.

Eccleſhall lies North-weſt of *Stafford*, and is a pretty Market-town, noted for Pedlery-wares: and an handſome little Market-town, with good Inns in it, called *Stone*, lies upon the *Trent*; and all the Country hereabouts yields delightful Views of this noble River. At *Shirby-wich* is a large Salt-well, and a fine Country.

Newcaſtle under Line ſtands ſtill farther North, upon a Branch of the *Trent*. 'Tis governed by a Mayor, two Juſtices, two Bailiffs, and Common-council, holds Pleas under 40*s*. and returns two Members to Parliament. The Streets are large, broad, and paved. The Clothing-trade flouriſhes here, and the Town is ſurrounded with Coal-pits. It has an handſome Market-place. The New Caſtle, whence the Town was denominated, is now leveled. The adjacent Parts yield good Quantities of Pit-coal: and

about

about three Miles from the Town is a Manufacture of Earthen-ware, which imitates brown China, and makes curious black Tea-pots, &c. resembling Japan, being neatly figured and gilt. The Coals here are cut out in Slices, and shine with all the various Colours of a Peacock's Tail, and therefore are called *Peacock-coals*.

The principal Manufacture in this Town at present is Hat-making; there being an incorporated Company here by the Name of Felt-makers.

Dr. *Plot*, as an Instance of the Growth of Stones, mentions, that near this Place was found a Stone, with a Man's Skull, Teeth and all, inclosed in it. And here is an excellent Device for the Taming of Shrews: they put a Bridle into the Scold's Mouth, which deprives her of the Power of Speech, by which she is led about the Town, and exposed to publick Shame, till she promises Amendment.

Near this Town is the greatest Quantity of Stone-ware made of any Part of *England*. I was assured by a Nobleman who lived in that Neighbourhood, that they usually exported 20,000*l*. worth of that Manufacture every Year.

About three Miles South-east of *Newcastle* is the little Town of *Trentham*, so called from the River *Trent*, which rises there.

At this Place is the noble Seat of Earl *Gower*, which is esteemed the finest Place in this County: the House is modern, and built on the Plan of *Buckingham-house* in *St. James's Park*. It is situated close to the Church, which renders the Entrance to the House very inconvenient, the Church and Church-yard being in Front.

The Park is very beautiful, and has two large Pieces of Water in it; and the Hills which rise immediately from the Water, are finely covered with Wood; which has a noble Effect as you pass along the

Road

Road to *Newcaſtle*. The Park is walled round, and from the high Ground in it, you have an extenſive View of the Country every Way.

Betley, a little Market-town, lies Weſt of *Newcaſtle*, upon the Borders of *Cheſhire*.

Breewood is a pretty Market-town, lying South-weſt of *Stafford*. And due South ſtands

Wolverhampton, a very antient Town, ſituate on an Hill, which is well-built, paved, and inhabited. Here the Trade of Lock-making is carried on to great Perfection; as is alſo every other Manufacture in Braſs and Iron; and the Goods are exported all over *Europe*: but the Town does not increaſe in its Buildings like that of *Birmingham*, the Land, for the chief Part, being the Property of the Church, and conſequently the Tenure not ſufficient to encourage People to lay out their Money upon it. The Church, which is Collegiate, was founded by a Widow Lady, named *Wulſnena*, in the Year 996. and King *Edward* VI. granted it, together with ſeven Prebends thereto belonging, to *John* Duke of *Northumberland*, in the Year 1553. In it are ſeveral old Monuments, and a Braſs Statue of Sir *Richard Leveſon*, who engaged the *Spaniards*, under Sir *Francis Drake*. The Pulpit is very old, and of Stone; and in the Churchyard is a very old Stone Croſs. From the Hill, on which the Town is ſituated, run four weak Springs of different Qualities, which is the only Water they have to ſupply this large and populous Town.

The Market for Iron-work is held weekly. Some of it is made in the Town, but the chief Part is brought to the Market by the Farmers for ſeveral Miles round it: for in this Country every Farm has one Forge, or more; ſo that the Farmers carry on two very different Buſineſſes; working at their Forges as Smiths, when they are not employed in the Fields as Farmers: and all they work they bring to Market,

where

where the great Tradeſmen buy it up, and ſend it to *London*.

In the Hamlet of *Wednesfield*, near two Miles diſtant from *Wolverhampton*, a new Chapel is to be erected, by Act of Parliament paſſed in the Seſſion of 1746. for the better Convenience of the Inhabitants attending Divine Service, the Road between theſe two Places being very deep and dirty in the Winter-ſeaſon; and the Chaplain or Curate is to be nominated by Mrs. *Martha Gough*, Widow, a principal Contributor to this pious Work, or her Heirs.

Walſal, Eaſt of *Wolverhampton*, is a good, pleaſant Corporate-town, governed by a Mayor, and ſituate on the Top of an Hill. This Place is famous for Iron-mines and Iron-works, ſuch as Spurs, Bridle-bits, Stirrups, Buckles, *&c.* in which there is a conſiderable Trade carried on.

Wrotteſley deſerves to be mentioned, as it is eminent for the Remains of ſome *Britiſh* or other Antiquity (to ſpeak of it in the Words of the Right Reverend Continuator of *Camden*), whether Fortification or City. My Author, ſays he, inclines to the latter, becauſe of the ſeveral Partitions, like Streets running divers Ways, which are within the Limits of it; as alſo the large Hinges which have been found here, and ſome of the Stones ſquared. The Whole contains in Circuit about three or four Miles; and Stones of a vaſt Bigneſs have been found thereabouts. It is remarkable, that one of theſe made one hundred Loads; another, after ten Loads hewn off, required 36 Yoke of Oxen to draw it, and made a great Ciſtern in a Malt-houſe here at *Wrotteſley*; which, tho' left very thick both at Bottom and Sides, wets 37 Strikes of Barley at a time.

Upon the Extremity of the County, South, juſt on the Borders of *Worceſterſhire*, is ſituate upon an high Mountain, the famous antient Caſtle of *Dudley*,

a Building

a Building of great Extent with Trenches about it, cut out of a Rock, and hath an high Tower upon it, on the South-ſide. It was built by *Dodo* a *Saxon*, in 700. Great Part of it is in Ruins, and the reſt converted into a noble Seat, where the Lord *Ward* reſides. The Caſtle over-tops all the Trees that ſurround it, and has a moſt extenſive Proſpect over five Shires, and into Part of *Wales*. In the Hall of this Caſtle is a Table all of one intire Plank, which, before it was fitted up there, was 25 Yards long, and one Yard in Breadth; but, being too long for the Hall, ſeven Yards and nine Inches of it were cut off, and made a Table for the Hall of a neighbouring Gentleman. What a prodigious Oak muſt this have been, that had a Length of 25 Yards, and a Diameter of one Yard from one End to the other!

The Town of *Dudley* lies near it, but in *Worceſterſhire*; and is only remarkable for being in a different County from the Caſtle.

The People in this County have been more particularly famous than any other for good Footmanſhip; and there have been, and ſtill are, among them ſome of the fleeteſt Runners in *England*; which muſt be owing to their exerciſing themſelves in it from their Childhood; for running Foot-races ſeems to be the general Sport or Diverſion of the Country.

Near *Stafford* we ſaw *Ingeſtre*, where the late *Walter Chetwynd*, Eſq; built, or rather rebuilt, a very fine Church at his own Charge, and where the late Lord *Chetwynd* has, with a Profuſion of Expence, laid out the fineſt Park and Gardens that are in this Part of *England*.

About a Mile from this Place is *Shuckborow-Manor*, the Seat of *Thomas Anſon*, Eſq; elder Brother to Lord *Anſon*. The Houſe ſtands near the *Trent*, and the Gardens, which are laid out in a fine Taſte, are ſituated on the Banks of the River. There are ſome

Ruins

Ruins built with large Stones, which the preſent Poſſeſſor found on the Spot; and which have a very good Effect.

At the Bottom of the Garden, in the publick Road, is a large ſtanding Water, which in Winter, and after great Rains, is impaſſable: over it is a Stone Bridge of 39 Arches, for Horſe and Foot Paſſengers; but it is too narrow for Wheel-carriages.

I am now at the utmoſt Extent of my propoſed Limits for this Circuit; for *Ingeſtre* Parks reach to the very Banks of the *Trent*. So I turned to the Right, and, intending for *Lichfield*, in the Way we ſaw *Beaudeſert*, a famous old Seat, ſaid to be built by *Hugh Lupus*, Earl of *Cheſter*. The Name indeed intimates it to be of *Norman* or *French* Original; at preſent it is in the noble Family of *Paget*, Earl of *Uxbridge*, who is ſtyled Baron of *Beaudeſert*. The Park is very fine, and its Situation exceeding pleaſant, but the Houſe is antient. In the Park is a famous Piece of Antiquity, *viz.* a large Camp or Fortification, ſurrounded with a double Trench, very large and deep.

On the Left of the Road is *Ouſley*, the Seat of Sir *William Ouſley*. The Houſe is antient, and ſituated low among Marſhes, with the River running in Front. The Park is on a riſing Ground on the Right Hand of the Road; ſo is ſeparated from the Houſe and Gardens. In the Front of the Houſe next *Ouſley* Bridge, ſtands an old Cedar-tree, whoſe Branches extend ſo far and ſo low, as to cover intirely that Front of the Houſe.

From hence 'tis about 12 Miles to the City of *Lichfield*, the principal, next to *Cheſter*, of all the North-weſt Part of *England*; nor indeed is there any other, but this and *Coventry*, in the whole Road from *London* to *Carliſle*, which is on the Edge of *Scotland*.

At

At *Rugely*, which is an handſome well-built Town, finely ſituated near the *Trent*, we came into the great *Lancaſhire* and *Cheſhire* Road, or the North-weſt Road from *London*, which, paſſing through this City from *Warrington-bridge* in *Cheſhire*, falls into the *Watling-ſtreet*, mentioned before, about three Miles South-eaſt from the Town, and croſſes another antient Cauſeway or Road, called *Icknild-ſtreet*, about a Mile out of the City; ſo that *Lichfield* lies, as it were, at the joining of all thoſe great Roads.

But, inſtead of going directly to *Lichfield*, we ſtruck out of the Road, and went North-eaſt to *Bromley*, a pretty Market-town; and from thence Eaſt to *Tutbury* on the Skirts of *Derbyſhire*: it has a ſmall Market-town with a Caſtle in it.

Some Miles Southward ſtands *Burton upon Trent*, where the Clothing-trade is carried on with great Advantage. It is famous for its noble Bridge over the *Trent*, conſiſting of 34 Arches, and of the Length of 503 Yards, built probably by *William de la Waid*, in K. *Henry* III.'s Time, (whoſe Arms are ſtill to be ſeen in the Church) of Free-ſtone cut and ſquared.

Here are ſtill the Remains of an Abbey of the *Benedictines*, whoſe Abbat was mitred, and ſat in Parliament. In it was buried *Modwena*, a Virgin of eminent Sanctity, who gave Name to a Well in the Pariſh, whoſe Water is ſaid to cure ſeveral Diſeaſes. *Thurſday* is the Market-day; and a Fair is annually held on *Aſcenſion-day*.

From hence we returned South-weſt to *Lichfield*, which is a fine, neat, well-built, and pretty large City. It roſe from the Ruins of the *Roman Etocetum*, a Mile off, now called *Cheſterfield-wall*, from ſome Reliques of its Fortifications. There is a kind of ſlow, ſluggiſh, Lough, or Water, which runs, or rather glides, heavily through it, and ſo on for four or five Miles farther into the *Trent*, but takes a ſwifter

Motion

Motion as ſoon as it is out of the Town. This Water parts the City into two: one Part is called the Town, and the other the Cloſe; in the firſt is the Market-place, a fine School, and a very handſome Hoſpital dedicated to St. *John*, well endowed. This Part is much the largeſt and moſt populous: but the other is the faireſt, has the beſt Buildings in it, and, among the reſt, the Cathedral Church, one of the fineſt and moſt beautiful in *England*.

There are two fine Cauſeways, which join the City and the Cloſe, with Sluices to let the Water paſs; but thoſe were cut thro' in the inteſtine Wars in *England*; and the Cloſe, which is walled about, and was then fortified for the King, was very ſtrong, and ſtood out ſeveral Attacks againſt *Cromwell*'s Men; but was at laſt taken by Storm, not without great Loſs of Blood on both Sides, being gallantly defended.

There are in the Cloſe, beſides the Houſes of the Clergy Reſidentiaries, a great many very well-built and well-inhabited Houſes, which made *Lichfield* a Place of good Company, above all the Towns in this or the neighbouring Counties of *Warwickſhire* or *Derbyſhire*.

The See is very antient, and was once archiepiſcopal, made ſo by King *Offa*; and *Eadulph* the Archbiſhop was Metropolitan of all the Kingdom of the *Mercians* and *Eaſt-Angles*; but it did not hold it; then it ſuffered another Diminution, by having the See of *Cheſter* taken away, which was once Part of this.

They told us here a long Story of St. *Chad*, formerly Biſhop of this Church, and how he lived an Eremitical Life here, by the Spring near *Stow* Church, in a little Hovel or Cell. But the Biſhops, ſince that Time, fare better, and make ſhift with a very fine Palace in the *Cloſe*, and the Reſidentiaries live in proportion to them.

They

They have another Story at *Lichfield*; namely, that a thouſand poor People, being inſtructed in the Chriſtian Faith by the Care of *Offa* King of the *Mercians*, were all martyred here in one Field by the Pagans: and that in the Field where they were ſo murdered, King *Oſwy* of *Northumberland* cauſed a great Church to be built; and from thence the City bears for its Device an open Field, with mangled Carcaſes lying diſperſed about in it, as if murdered, and left unburied.

The Church, which was rebuilt by Biſhop *Roger de Clinton* in 1148. for the Elegancy and Regularity of the Building, may be eſteemed one of the moſt complete in *England*. The Weſt-end is richly decorated with the Statues of all the Kings who reigned in *Jeruſalem*, from *David* to the Captivity. But it is too flat, and wants Projection, or, as Architects call it, *Relief*, to give it Boldneſs. The two Towers are much too low for their Breadth, and look very heavy for want of Windows, eſpecially where the Bells hang. The circular Stair-caſes projecting octagonally at one Angle only of each, without any of the other three Angles anſwering, is a great Irregularity. But the Spires above them are carried up in an exceeding beautiful Taſte, much beyond any other Gothick Spires that I have ſeen. The middle Tower and Spire of this Church are much higher than thoſe at the Weſt-end, and are equally beautiful.

The Spire deſigned for the Middle of *Weſtminſter-Abbey* is an Imitation of the middle Spire of this Church.

The great Window over the middle Door is very large, and its Pediment finely adorned, a large Croſs finiſhing the Top of it.

The Imagery and carved Work on the Front, as above, ſuffered much in the Rebellion in 1641; and they told us, the Croſs over the Weſt Window was

was frequently ſhot at by the rude Soldiers; but that they could not ſhoot it down.

The Saints of thoſe Days alſo intirely ruined all the Ornaments of the Inſide, with the Braſs Inſcriptions, Tombs, *&c.* It is built in the midſt of a Bog for Security, and held out ſome fierce Attacks for King *Charles* I. and what the Outſide ſuffer'd, has been very well repaired ſince the Reſtoration, as well by the famous Biſhop *Hacket*, as by the Bounty of ſeveral noble and generous Benefactors.

The *Monaſticon* makes mention of a Shrine being given here for St. *Chad*, or St. *Cedda*, which coſt 200,000 *l.* but I conceive that to ſmell as much of the Legend, as the Miracles of St. *Chad* himſelf; ſince ſuch a Gift at that time muſt be equal to two Millions of our Money.

The City is a County of itſelf, with a Juriſdiction extending 10 or 12 Miles round; which Circuit the Sheriff rides every Year on *Sept.* 8. It is governed by two Bailiffs, a Sheriff, 24 Burgeſſes, a Recorder, *&c.* and ſends two Members to Parliament.

Antient Camps are found in the Neighbourhood of *Lichfield*.

From *Lichfield* we came to *Tamworth*, a fine pleaſant trading Town, eminent for good Ale, and good Company, of the middling Sort; and alſo for a fine Charity of the famous Bookſeller, Mr. *Guy*, who built and endowed the noble Hoſpital in *Southwark*, called by his Name. The Town ſtands on the River *Tame*, which runs thro' it, and divides it into two Parts, one Part whereof is in this County, and the other in *Warwickſhire*. It is a Bailiwick Town, and a Place of good Account, though it has been much more conſiderable. Here was antiently a Palace of the *Mercian* Kings, and there is ſtill remaining a ſquare Trench, called the King's Dyke. This Town was given by the *Conqueror* to the *Marmyons*, who

built the Caſtle here, and were hereditary Champions of *England*, from whom that Office deſcended to the *Dymokes* of *Lincolnſhire*. This Town returns two Members to Parliament.

From *Tamworth* we came to *Sutton-Coleſield*, a little Town ſituated in an excellent Air, and among pleaſant Woods, tho' but in a barren Soil; and then we came into the great Road again at *Coleſhill* in *Warwickſhire*, a ſmall but handſome Market-town, noted, as a thoroughfare Town, for good Inns. It is ſituated by the River *Cole*, and on ſo high an Hill, that the Spire of the Church is ſeen at a great Diſtance every Way.

In the Valley below this Town is the Park and Seat of the Family of the *Digby's*. The Houſe is antient, and the Situation low, which renders it bad in Winter; but in Summer it is very pleaſant, having the fine River ſerpentizing thro' the Park, and the Verdure continuing all the Summer, when moſt other Grounds around it are burnt up; and adorned with very agreeable Woods.

In our Way from hence to *Coventry*, we paſſed by a Seat of the late Earl of *Aileſbury*, about a Mile from *Meridan*. The Houſe ſtands on the South-ſide of the Road, and the Park on the North-ſide. A large Arch is turned over the Road, wide enough for a Wheel-carriage to paſs over, in order to have a Communication between the Houſe and Park without going through the Road. The Houſe is modern, and appears from the Road to be built in a good Taſte; but its low Situation muſt deprive it of any extraordinary Proſpect.

We next came to *Coventry*, the Siſter City to *Lichfield*, and joined in the Title of See, which was for ſome little time ſeated here, but afterwards returned to *Lichfield*.

Coventry,

Coventry is a City of large Extent, and populous, ſituated near the Middle of *England*, on the little River *Sherburn*; whoſe Water is peculiar for its blue Dye. It drives a very great Trade: the Manufacture of Tammies is their chief Employ, and next to that, weaving of Ribands of the meaneſt kind, chiefly black. The Buildings are very old, and in ſome Places very much decayed; the Timber-built Houſes project forwards into the Street towards one another, inſomuch that in the narrow Streets they almoſt touch at the Top; a Method of Building formerly much practiſed in *London*. It was walled and incorporated by K. *Edward* II. and its Charter was confirmed by King *Henry* VI. and augmented with ſeveral Privileges by King *James* I.

The Tale of the Lady *Godina*, who rode naked through the High-ſtreet of this City to purchaſe its Exemption from oppreſſive Taxes, is held for ſo certain a Truth, that they will not have it queſtioned upon any Account whatſoever; and, in Memory of it, the Inhabitants make a Proceſſion yearly, the *Friday* after *Trinity-Sunday*, which is a Fair, with a naked Figure of a Woman riding on Horſeback thro' the City; and the Picture of the poor Fellow who peeped out of the Window to ſee her, is ſtill kept up, looking out of a Garret in the High-ſtreet of the City. It has three Fairs, held *Oct.* 3. *Apr.* 1. and *Aug.* 16. Two Parliaments have been held in this City, both remarkably denominated; one in the 6th of King *Henry* IV. called *Parliamentum Indoctorum*; the other in the 38th of King *Henry* VI. called *Parliamentum Diabolicum*, becauſe of the Attainder paſſed in it againſt the Houſe of *York*, and its Partiſans.

At the Reſtoration of King *Charles* II. *Anno* 1662. the Walls and Towers of the City were demoliſhed, by that Prince's Command, and only the Gates of it left ſtanding; by which the Beauty and Strength of

the reſt may be gueſſed at. The Wall round it was three Miles in Compaſs; the Gates were in Number 12; and the Towers were 26.

This City ſends two Members to Parliament. It is a County incorporate of itſelf, and includes nineteen Villages and Hamlets within its Limits. It holds Pleas, and is governed by a Mayor, 10 Aldermen, and Sub-officers; but it had only 2 Pariſh Churches, that of the *Holy Trinity*, and the Church of *St. Michael*, which were unable to hold half the Inhabitants, till the Year 1734. when an Act paſſed for making the Church of *Bablack* in *Coventry* a Pariſh Church, and for appointing a Diſtrict or Pariſh thereto, and for enabling the Maſter and Uſher of the free Grammar-ſchool within the ſaid City, to be the Rector and Lecturer of the ſaid Pariſh Church, for all time to come. This is called in the Act the Pariſh Church of *St. John the Baptiſt* in the City of *Coventry*. Beſides theſe three Churches and Pariſhes, it has four Steeples. The Roads are kept well paved to it for a Mile round. Here is a good Free-ſchool, founded by *John Hales*, Eſq; by the Name of the School of King *Henry* VIII. the Maſter of which is to be, for the future, the Miniſter of the new Pariſh Church, as I have mentioned. It has a good Library; and there is alſo an Hoſpital for the Poor. In the Church of *St. Michael*, which is a fine Fabrick of Gothick Architecture, is a moſt curious Piece of Painting, lately erected for an Altar-piece; by ſome thought to reſemble more thoſe that are ſeen in Popiſh Churches abroad, than the true Proteſtant Simplicity. But here is no Cathedral, as ſome have falſly ſaid; neither is the Great Church, ſo called, either Collegiate or Conventual; but only a Monaſtery or Priory.

Yet this City contended a great while for this Honour, but could not carry it. In King *Henry* VIII.'s Time,

Time, the Priory being diſſolved, the Church, which they would have called a Cathedral, was reduced to a private Pariſh Church, and continues ſo to this Day: 'tis alſo an Archdeaconry, and the Biſhop is ſtyled Biſhop of *Lichfield* and *Coventry*.

The Spire of the great Church is however very beautiful, and 100 Yards high. The two Churches above-named are in the ſame Yard, as it were rivaling each other.

The Croſs is a fine Gothick Work, the ſtatelieſt in the Kingdom, 66 Feet high; and in Niches are the Statues of ſeveral of the *Engliſh* Kings, in curious Gothick Sculpture. It was built in *Henry* VIII.'s Reign by Sir *William Holles*, Lord Mayor of *London*, and was repaired and beautified in the Year 1667. But it now wants another Repair; for it is in a very bad Condition; moſt of the Figures are broken and defaced, and no Care taken to prevent their total Deſtruction.

At the South-end of the Town ſtands a tall Spire by itſelf, being what is left of the *Grey Friers* Conventual Church. The Town-houſe is worth ſeeing; the Windows of it are painted Glaſs, repreſenting ſome of the old Kings, Earls, *&c.* who have been Benefactors to the Town.

And a Copy of *Latin* Verſes is there to be read, in Praiſe of their Royal Benefactors, in which are named the *Edwards*, the *Henries*, the *Black Prince*, Queen *Elizabeth*, the Duke of *Northumberland*, and the great Earl of *Leiceſter*.

Wedneſday and *Friday* are the Market-days.

The opulent and great Manufactury-town of *Birmingham* I have already taken notice of, *p.* 338.

From *Coventry* we could by no means paſs the Town of *Warwick*, the Diſtance too being but about ſix Miles, and a very pleaſant Way on the Banks of the River *Avon*: 'tis famous for being the Reſidence

of the great *Guy* Earl of *Warwick*, of whom Tradition has delivered down to us ſo many hyperbolical Accounts, that it is hardly poſſible to diſtinguiſh his real Actions from what are fabulous. He flouriſhed in the Reign of *Athelſtane*, and decided the Fate of the Kingdom by Compact, in ſingle Combat with *Colbrond* the *Dane*, a Man of gigantick Stature, whom he ſlew, and afterwards led an Hermit's Life, till his Death. They ſhew us here his Caſtle, his Helmet, his Sword, and tell abundance of things of him, which have ſome Appearance of Hiſtory, though not much Authority to ſupport them. So I leave that Part to the curious Searchers into Antiquity, who may conſult Mr. *Camden*, *Rous*, *Dugdale*, and other Antiquaries, on that Subject, who tell us the Caſtle was built before our Saviour's Time, and has been a Place of great Conſideration ever ſince.

As to *Warwick*, it is really a fine Town, pleaſantly ſituated on the Bank of the *Avon*, over which is a large and ſtately Bridge, the *Avon* being now grown a pretty large River. *Warwick* has ſuffered much from all Quarters. It was once deſtroyed by the *Picts* and *Scots*; after which, the famous *Caractacus* (who at the Head of the *Silures* oppoſed the *Romans* ſo long) rebuilt it, erecting there alſo a Palace for himſelf. Then the *Romans* under *Oſtorius*, and after them the *Saxons*, greatly damaged it; and laſtly, the ravaging *Danes* ruined it.

Tho' it was a Corporation by Preſcription, yet it took a Charter from *Philip* and *Mary*, and ſince from *James* I. and is now governed by a Bailiff, and 12 Burgeſſes. It has an handſome ſtone-built Market-houſe, upheld by Pillars; and here is a good Free-ſchool, and a well-endowed Hoſpital for decayed Gentlemen. Tho' it has been always accounted an handſome well-built Town, yet the Face of it is now quite altered and improved; for having been almoſt wholly

wholly reduced to an Heap of Rubbiſh, by a terrible Fire, which happened the 5th Day of *September* 1694. by the mere Accident of a Spark being blown from a Stick, as it was carried croſs a Lane, to the Damage of 96,000 *l.* it was rebuilt by Act of Parliament, and that in ſo noble and beautiful a Manner, that few Towns in *England* make ſo fine an Appearance.

The Church and lofty Tower are new-built, except the Eaſt-end, which is old, and very good Work. There are many fine Braſs Monuments of the Earls of *Warwick*, and others; alſo one of the Earl of *Eſſex*, Q. *Elizabeth*'s unhappy Favourite; and many Chapels and Confeſſionaries. In the Chapter-houſe on the North-ſide is a Tomb of the Lord *Brook*. The Caſtle ſtands upon the River *Avon* on a ſolid Rock, from whoſe Bowels that and the whole Town may be ſaid to have been dug. The Terrace of the Caſtle, like that of *Windſor*, overlooks a beautiful Country; one ſees the *Avon* running at the Foot of the Precipice, from above 50 Feet perpendicular Height; for the ſolid Rock, from the River on which it ſtands, is 40 Feet high, but on the North-ſide it is even with the Town. The Building is old, but has been often repaired and beautified; and 'tis now a very agreeable Structure both within and without. The Apartments are very nicely contrived, and the Communication of the remoteſt Parts of the Building, one with another, is ſo well preſerved by Galleries, and by the great Hall, which is very magnificent, that one finds no Irregularity in the whole Building, notwithſtanding its antient Plan, as it was a Caſtle built for Strength, rather than a Palace to dwell in for Pleaſure.

A Stone Bridge with a dozen Arches is at the Caſtle; acroſs is a ſtone-work Dam, where the Water falls over it as a Caſcade, under the Caſtle

Wall. It is fenced with a deep Mound, and ſtrong embattled double Walls, and lofty Towers. On one Side the Area is a very high Mount. There are good Apartments and Lodgings next the River, the Reſidence of the Lord *Brook*. The Priory, on the North-eaſt of the Town, overlooks a pleaſant woody Vale. There are a great many curious original Pictures in the Caſtle, by *Vandyke* and other good Hands, of Kings, Queens, and other noble Perſonages, both *Engliſh* and foreign.

Wedneſday and *Saturday* are the Market-days; and it holds ſix Fairs, which are, the firſt *Saturday* in *Lent*, *May-day*, *Midſummer-day*, *St. Bartholomew's*, *Michaelmas*, and *St. Simon* and *Jude*. It ſends two Members to Parliament.

A Mile out of Town, on the Side of an Hill, is a pretty retired Cell, called *Guy-Cliff*. In an old Chapel is *Guy*'s Statue, eight Feet high. The Fence of the Court is intire Rock, in which are cut Stables and Out-houſes. They ſhewed us the rough Cave, where they ſay the famous *Guy* died an Hermit.

While I was ſtationed, as I may ſay, at *Warwick*, I took a Turn about the Country, to view ſuch Places of Note as lay ſomething out of my intended Route. And firſt, paſſing a Rivulet, I came to the antient *Tripontium*, placed in a pleaſant little Valley, the Sides of which are pretty ſteep. The Road on the oppoſite Hill looks perfectly like a Perſpective-Scene at the Theatre. This is a *Roman* Station, rightly placed at *Dovebridge* upon the *Avon*, running by *Rugby* to *Warwick*. The Stream here divides into two, with a Bridge over each. Upon one is a ſhort Inſcription in Stone, ſhewing the three Counties which repair it.

Near this Place, at *Legers-Aſhby* in *Northampton-ſhire*, has been an old Town, as they ſay, deſtroyed by

by the *Danes*. *Catesby*, who hatched the Powder-plot, owned the Town.

We went on to *Daventry*, a conſiderable Market-town, governed by a Mayor, Aldermen, Steward, and 12 Freemen. It lies on the great Road to *Cheſter*, and is conſequently a great Thoroughfare, and well furniſhed with good Inns; for it ſubſiſts chiefly by the great Concourſe of Travelers that paſs that Way. It lies alſo on the old *Watling-ſtreet* Way. The Road was turned to paſs through the Town, and runs on to *Dunſmore-heath*, where it croſſes the *Foſſe*, and one Branch goes on to *Coventry*, and the other joins the *Foſſe*, and goes on to a Place called *High-croſs*, of which further anon, where it falls into the old *Watling-ſtreet*, and both meet again near *Lichfield*.

It is a moſt pleaſant Curioſity to obſerve the Courſe of theſe old famous Highways, the *Ikenild* Way, the *Watling-ſtreet*, and the *Foſſe*; in which one ſees ſo lively a Repreſentation of the antient *Britiſh*, *Roman*, and *Saxon* Governments, that one cannot help recalling thoſe Times to the Imagination; and, tho' I am confined to ſuch narrow Limits in this Work, yet a Circuit or Tour thro' *England* would be very imperfect, if I ſhould take no notice of theſe Ways, ſeeing in tracing them we neceſſarily come to the principal Towns, that either are or have been in every County; and likewiſe in mentioning their Remains, we give ſome Account of them as in their preſent State, which falls directly in with my Deſign.

From *Daventry* we went a little out of the Road, to ſee a great Camp called *Burrow-hill*, upon the North End of an Eminence, covered over with Fern and Goſs. Here uſed to be kept an Horſe-race. They ſay this was a *Daniſh* Camp, and every thing hereabouts is attributed to the *Danes*, becauſe of the neighbouring *Daventry*, which they ſuppoſe to have

been built by them. The Road hereabouts too being overgrown with Daneweed, they fanſy it ſprung from the Blood of the *Danes*, ſlain in Battle; and that if upon a certain Day in the Year you cut it, it bleeds.

Originally, it ſeems to have been *Roman*, but perhaps new-modelled by the *Danes*.

In *Norton* Town Road a *Cornu Ammonis* lies neglected, too big to bring away.

At *Weedon* is ſhewn the Site of King *Wolfhere*'s Palace; the *Saxon* Kings of this Province reſiding here. The Paſtures called the *Aſhes* are the *Roman* Camp. St. *Werberg*, Daughter of King *Wolfhere*, and Abbeſs to the Nunnery in this Place, had here a Chapel. Abundance of very fine Stone, and many *Roman* Coins, have been dug up. *Weedon* now contains two Pariſhes, and has been a Market-town.

Towceſter is a conſiderable Town between two Rivulets, which encompaſs it almoſt round. It is an handſome Town, well provided for the Reception of Travelers.

Old-Stretford ſtands on the oppoſite Side of the *Ouſe* to *Stony-Stretford*. In the Fields thereabouts are found many *Roman* Coins.

A little North of the *Horſe-ſhoe* Inn ſtood Queen *Eleanor*'s Croſs, which was pulled down in the Civil Wars.

To the Weſt of *Stretford* ſtands *Whaddon-hall*, upon very high Ground, affording a moſt beautiful Proſpect. This Manor formerly belonged to the Lords *Grey*; one of whom, a Knight of the Garter, is buried in the Church. Here is the original Picture of Dr. *Willis*, the Progenitor of the preſent Poſſeſſor, with many of his MSS. Letters, Conſultations, Lectures, and other Works, unpubliſhed. The Poets *Spencer* and the Duke of *Bucks* honoured this Place

with

with their Reſidence. Still higher ſtands *Stukeley*. The Church is very intire, tho' built before the Conqueſt, in the plain antient Manner.

I now come to *Northampton*, an antient Borough-town, incorporated by King *Henry* II. and confirmed by King *James* I. Several Parliaments have been held here, on account of its healthful and agreeable Situation, beſides its being the handſomeſt Town in all this Part of *England*; but here, as at *Warwick*, the Beauty of it is owing to its Diſaſter; for it was ſo effectually burnt down, *Sept.* 20. 1675. that very few Houſes were left ſtanding; and, although the Fire began in the Day-time, the Flame ſpread itſelf with ſuch Fury and Speed, that, they tell us, a Townſman, being two Miles off upon an Hill on the South-ſide of the Town, ſaw the Fire at one End of it, juſt as it began; and before he reached the Town, with all the Speed he could, the other End was in Flames alſo. 'Tis now finely rebuilt with Brick and Stone, and the Streets made ſpacious and wide. It has two Hoſpitals, and a Charity-ſchool well endowed. The Market-place is ſquare and ſpacious; the Aſſize-houſe is built after the *Corinthian* Order. Here are four Pariſh Churches, *All-Saints*, *St. Giles*'s, *St. Sepulchre*'s, and *St. Peter*'s. *All-Saints* or *All-Hallows* Church is a pretty Edifice, with a Cupola, and a noble Portico, before it, of eight lofty Ionick Columns. Upon the Baluſtrade is a Statue of King *Charles* II. It is ſituated on the North-weſt of the River *Nyne*, over which there are two handſome Bridges, and is walled in; and on the Weſt-ſide are the Remains of an old Caſtle, upon an Eminence. 'Tis governed by a Mayor, two Bailiffs, a Recorder, &c. and ſends two Members to Parliament. *All-Saints* Church before-mentioned ſtands in a Centre, where four large ſpacious Streets terminate. The

publick Buildings are eſteemed the fineſt that can be ſeen in any County-town in *England*, being all new-built. But that Writer, who told us of a Cathedral, a Chapter-houſe, and a Cloiſter, took very little Notice of *Northampton*, or rather had never ſeen it.

The great Inn called the *George*, at the Corner of the High-ſtreet, looks more like a Palace than an Inn, and coſt above 2000 *l.* building; and ſo generous was the Owner, that, as we were told, when he had built it, he gave it to the Poor of the Town.

This is counted the Centre of all the Horſe-markets and Horſe-fairs in *England*, there being here no leſs than ſeven Fairs in a Year. And indeed *Northampton* is reckoned the Navel of *England*. Here they buy Horſes of all Sorts, as well for the Saddle as for the Coach and Cart; and hither all the Jockeys from *London* reſort to purchaſe Horſes.

Near *Northampton* is the antient Royal Houſe of *Holmeby*, which was formerly in great Eſteem, and by its Situation is capable of being made a truly Royal Palace. But the melancholy Reflection of the Impriſonment of King *Charles* I. in this Houſe, and his being violently taken hence again by the Rebels, has caſt a kind of Diſgrace upon the Place, ſo that it has been forſaken. The Houſe and Eſtate was purchaſed by the Ducheſs of *Marlborough*, and became Part of the Jointure which was ſettled on the Marchioneſs of *Blandford*. It is at preſent poſſeſſed by a Farmer, who has pulled down Part of the Out-houſes, and converted the remaining Part into Barns, Stables, &c.

A little Way off of *Northampton* is *Naſeby*, where the bloody and fatal Battle was fought between the Royaliſts and Parliamentarians, upon a fine Plain, where at preſent ſtands a Windmill; and on it are the Marks of ſeveral great Holes, where the Slain

were

were buried; and near this is *Guildsborough*, ſo named from a *Roman* Camp, of a ſquare Form, and deep Ditch, called *The Burrows*.

The Town of *Towceſter* is of large Extent, and very populous: and having but one Pariſh Church, which is two Miles diſtant from the Hamlet of *Althorpe* and *Foxcoate*, in which there was a Chapel of Eaſe, but officiated in only once a Month, by the Vicar of *Towceſter*, tho' 'tis computed there are 400 Souls in the ſaid Hamlet, who in the Winter-time cannot attend Divine Service at *Towceſter*; and ſeveral Benefactions having been given, in caſe the ſaid Hamlet ſhould be erected into a Pariſh; for all theſe Reaſons, an Act paſſed, Seſſ. 1737. for making the Chapel in the Hamlet of *Althorpe* and *Foxcoate* a Pariſh Church, and for appointing a Diſtrict or Pariſh thereto; and, according to the Condition of one of the Benefactions, enabling the Maſter of the free Grammar-ſchool, within the ſaid Hamlet, to be Vicar of the new Pariſh Church.

The Seat of the Earl of *Pomfret*, near *Towceſter*, is a ſtately Building, and ſtands pleaſantly, amidſt good Plantations of Wood, Viſta's, and fine Proſpects. In the grand View to the back Front, beyond the Garden, is a large and long Canal: and juſt below the Gardens, the Meadows, which are of great Extent, lie open to the View of the Houſe; and the River ſerpentizing thro' theſe, gives a great Beauty to the Seat. Several curious Pictures are in the Houſe. But what is the principal Glory of this Seat, is, the vaſt Number of *Greek* and *Roman* Marbles, Statues, Buſto's, Bas-reliefs, Urns, Altars, &c. Part of the invaluable Collection of the great Earl of *Arundel*, and which are worthy of a Journey thro' half the Globe to behold. The Hall is a fine lofty Room, and the great Stairs are painted in Freſco by Sir *James Thornhill*.

Towceſter is a pretty Town, of *Roman* Antiquity; through which, in a ſtrait Line, runs the *Watling-ſtreet*. The Inhabitants of all Ages are here employed in a ſilken Manufacture, and Lace-making. The Town conſiſts of one long Street, and is almoſt intirely encompaſſed with Water.

The Houſe late the Earl of *Sunderland*'s, at *Althorpe*, has within theſe few Years changed its Face to much Advantage. This antient Seat was rebuilt with great Improvement, by *Robert* Earl of *Sunderland*, Grandfather to the preſent Duke of *Marlborough*; and is particularly noted for a magnificent Gallery, furniſhed with a large Collection of curious Paintings, by the beſt Hands. And in the Apartments below-ſtairs there is a ſtill more valuable one, of moſt of the greateſt Maſters in *Europe*. So that there are very few Collections of Pictures in *England* better worth the Curioſity of a Traveler than this.

The Park is laid out and planted after the Manner of that at *Greenwich*, and was deſigned by *Le Notre*, the ſame Perſon who planted *St. James*'s Park, and *Caſſioberry*, as alſo ſeveral other Parks and Gardens in *England*.

There is a noble Piece of Water here, on which is lately built a fine Veſſel, completely equipped; as his Grace the Duke of *Bedford* has alſo at his Seat at *Woburn-Abbey*. There are likewiſe on this Stream a fine *Venetian* Gondola, Canoes, &c. But the Water is too near the Houſe, and occaſions ſo great a Damp, that ſome of the Pictures in the Gallery are mildewed thereby.

At a convenient Diſtance from the Houſe is lately built an handſome Square of Offices, and near theſe is a large Kitchen-garden finely walled and planted, in which is an handſome Building, for the Reſidence of the Gardener, which is a Model of an *Italian* Villa.

From

From hence we went North towards *Harborough*, and in the Way, in the midſt of deep diſmal Roads, the dirtieſt and worſt in all that Part of the Country, we ſaw *Boughton*, the noble Seat of the Duke of *Montagu*, an Houſe built by the firſt Duke, very much after the Model of the Palace of *Verſailles*; the treble Wings projecting and expanded, forming a Court or Space wider and wider, in proper Stades, anſwerable to the Wings, the Body of the Houſe cloſing the whole View.

The Hall is a very noble Room; on the Cieling is a Convocation of the Gods, admirably painted, as are many Suites of Rooms, Staircaſes, Galleries, *&c.* beſide the great Number of Portraits, and other curious Pictures. The Gardens contain 90 Acres, adorned with Statues, Flower-pots, Urns of Marble and Metal, many very large Baſons, with Variety of Fountains playing, Aviaries, Reſervoirs, Fiſh-ponds, Canals, Wilderneſſes, Terraces, *&c.* The Caſcade is very fine, and a whole River, running through the Length of the Gardens, is diverſified moſt agreeably to complete its Beauty.

The Park is walled round with Brick, and ſo finely planted with Trees, and in ſuch an excellent Order, that I ſaw nothing more beautiful, even in *Italy* itſelf, except that the Walks of Trees were not Orange, Lemon, and Citron, as they are in *Naples*, the *Abruzzo*, and other Southern Parts of *Italy*.

A Mile off is *Geddington*, where, in a *Trivium*, ſtands one of the Stone Croſſes, built by King *Edward* I. in Memory of his Queen *Eleanor*. Theſe are ſaid to be the Places where the Corpſe of that Princeſs reſted, and Croſſes were erected; *Lincoln*, *Newark*, *Leiceſter*, *Geddington*, *Northampton*, *Stony-Stretford*, *Dunſtable*, *St. Albans*, *Waltham*, *Cheapſide*, *Charing-croſs*.

On *Willoughby* Side of the Road is an Hillock, called *Croſs-hill*, where the Country-people obſerve an anniverſary Feſtival. *Willoughby* Brook plays in delightful Meanders along a Valley between Corn-fields, with a moderate Water, unleſs raiſed by Rains. Here ſeveral Braſs and Silver Coins have been found, and ſome of Gold. The People have a Notion of great Riches being hid under-ground; and there is a vulgar Report, that under one *Balk* or *Mere*, that is, Diviſion, between the plowed Fields, there is as much Money as would purchaſe the whole Lordſhip; but they dare not dig, they pretend, for fear of Spirits. Moſaic Pavements, Coins, Pot-hooks, Fire-ſhovels, *&c.* have been alſo found.

In *Willoughby* Town is an handſome Croſs of one Stone, five Yards long. The Parliament-Soldiers had tied Ropes about it to pull it down; but the Vicar quenched their Zeal with ſome ſtrong Beer, after having harangued them concerning its Innocence.

At *Coſſington*, near the River *Wrek*, is a vaſt Barrow, 350 Feet long, 120 broad, 40 high, or near it, very handſomely worked up on the Sides, and very ſteep. It is called *Shipley-hill*, from a great Captain of that Name, who, they ſay, was here buried. On the Top are ſeveral oblong doubled Trenches cut in the Turf, where the Lads and Laſſes of the adjacent Villages meet on *Eaſter-Monday*, to recreate themſelves with Cakes and Ale.

At *Erdborough* is a ſtrong *Roman* Camp, 800 Feet long, of a delightful Proſpect. Near it is a petrefying Spring.

But I muſt not omit, as I had like to have done, the Town of *Wellingborough* in the County of *Northampton*.

It was a large, well-built, and well-inhabited Town, with a fine Church, and Free-ſchool. A dreadful

dreadful Fire, which happened here in *July* 1738. has made the Town ſtill more beautiful, tho' the Occaſion was too melancholy to be wiſhed for. It began at a Dyer's Houſe in the Town, about two in the Afternoon, and in the Space of ſix Hours conſumed near 220 Houſes, beſides Outhouſes, Barns, Stables, *&c.* amounting in the Whole to upwards of 800, moſtly in the South and Eaſt Parts of the Town. The Wind being high, and but little Water to be had, the Fire was ſo fierce and violent, that it ſeemed to break out at twenty Places at once, and the Inhabitants were in ſuch Confuſion, that but few of them had time to ſave any Goods, and many only the Cloaths on their Backs. As it happened chiefly among the trading Men and Farmers, the Loſs upon them was very heavy. But it was a good deal alleviated by the ſignal Charity of the neighbouring Gentlemen and others, which ſaved many of the poor Sufferers from periſhing for Want.

In the Month of *March* following this dreadful Fire, another happened at *Findon*, two Miles from *Wellingborough*, which conſumed 16 Houſes.

From *Boughton* we went on to *Harborough*, a good Market-town, and great Thoroughfare, intending to go forward to *Leiceſter*; but Curioſity turned us Weſt a little, to ſee an old Town called *Lutterworth*, famous for being the Birth-place of *John Wickliff*, the firſt Preacher of the Reformation in *England*, whoſe Diſciples were afterwards called *Lollards*.

The Church was lately beautified, and paved with a coſtly Pavement of chequered Stone; and the Pews are new, and every thing in it both in Church and Chancel, except the Pulpit, of thick Oak-planks, ſix-ſquare, which is preſerved on account of its being *Wickliff*'s Pulpit.

Being

Being thus got a little out of our Way, we turned Weſt into the *Watling-ſtreet* Way, at *High-croſs*, where the *Foſſe* croſſes it, and which, I ſuppoſe, occaſioned the Name, leaving *Rugby* in *Warwickſhire*, a ſmall Town, noted only for a great Number of Butchers, on the South-weſt of us. At this Croſs, we ſeemed to be in the Centre, and on the higheſt Ground, of *England*; for from hence Rivers run every Way. The *Foſſe* went acroſs the Back-ſide of our Inn, and ſo towards *Bath*. Here are divers *Roman* Antiquities: its antient Appellation was *Benonis*. The late Earl of *Denbeigh* (whoſe Seat is near this Road), and the Gentlemen in the Neighbourhood, erected here a Croſs of an handſome Deſign, but of mouldering Stone, thro' the Deceit of the Architect. It conſiſts of four Dorick Columns, regarding the four Roads, with a gilded Globe and Croſs at top, upon a Sun-dial. On two Sides, between the four Tuſcan Pillars, which compoſe a ſort of Pedeſtal, are theſe Inſcriptions:

Vicinarum provinciarum, Vervicenſis ſcilicet & Leiceſtrenſis, ornamenta, proceres patriciique, auſpiciis illuſtriſſimi Baſilii Comitis de Denbeigh, hanc columnam ſtatuendam curaverunt, in gratam pariter & perpetuam memoriam Jani tandem a Sereniſſima Anna clauſi, A. D. M.DCC.XII.

Thus tranſlated:

The Noblemen and Gentry, Ornaments of the neighbouring Counties of *Warwick* and *Leiceſter*, at the Inſtances of the Right Honourable *Baſil* Earl of *Denbeigh*, have cauſed this Pillar to be erected, in grateful as well as perpetual Remembrance of PEACE at laſt reſtored by her Majeſty Queen *Anne*, in the Year of our Lord M.DCC.XII.

The

The Inſcription on the other Side runs thus:

Si veterum Romanorum veſtigia quæras, hic cernas, viator. Hic enim celeberrimæ illorum viæ militares ſeſe mutuo ſecantes ad extremos uſque Britanniæ limites procurrunt: hic ſtativa ſua habuerunt Vennones; & ad primum abhinc lapidem caſtra ſua ad Stratam, & ad Foſſam tumulum, Claudius quidam cohortis præfectus habuiſſe videtur.

Which may be thus rendered:

If, Traveler, you ſearch for the Fooſteps of the antient *Romans*, here you may behold them. For here their moſt celebrated military Ways, croſſing one another, extend to the utmoſt Boundaries of *Britain:* here the *Vennones* kept their Quarters; and, at the Diſtance of one Mile from hence, *Claudius*, a certain Commander of a Cohort, ſeems to have had a Camp towards the † *Street*, and towards the *Foſſe* a Tomb.

The *Watling-ſtreet*, meaſuring from *Cheſter* thro' *London* and *Dover*, makes a ſtrait Line with *Rome*. Which ſeems to have been ſo contrived by the great Founders, that in traveling upon it they might have the Satisfaction of reflecting, that they were going upon the Line which led to the Capital of the Empire.

This Road is not paſſable but juſt in the Middle of Summer, after the Coal Carriages have beaten the Way; for as the Ground is a ſtiff Clay, ſo, after Rain, the Water ſtands as in a Diſh, and Horſes ſink into it up to their Bellies.

To proceed, we kept the Street-way till we came into the *Leiceſter* Road, which we followed Eaſt to

† The *Watling-ſtreet*, ſimply called *The Street*, by way of Eminence.

Hinkley,

Hinkley, a Market-town, ſituate on an Hill very pleaſantly. This Town is noted for a large handſome Church, and an high Spire-ſteeple all of Stone, in which is a Chime of excellent Bells.

From hence we turned North-weſt, and came to *Nun-Eaton*, an ordinary manufacturing Town, on the River *Anker*, and then Northward to *Atherſton*; and ſo made a kind of ſerpentizing Tour of it along the Borders of the two Counties of *Warwick* and *Leiceſter*, ſometimes in one and ſometimes in the other.

Atherſton is a Market-town, famous for a great Cheeſe Fair on the 8th of *September*, from whence the Cheeſe-factors carry the vaſt Quantities of Cheeſe they buy to *Sturbridge* Fair, which begins about the ſame time, but holds much longer; and here 'tis ſold again for the Supply of the Counties of *Eſſex*, *Suſſex*, and *Norfolk*.

Near this Town is a pleaſant little Seat called *Mereval* belonging to —— *Stratford*, Eſq; the Houſe ſtands on the Edge of a ſteep Hill, ſo as to command a View of the Country for ſeveral Miles; and from the Parlour there is a Proſpect of a rich Vale, ſcattered with Towns, and Woods, ſo intermixed as to afford a delightful Proſpect. In the Gardens of this Gentleman there are a great Quantity of fine Oaks, the Timber of which has been lately valued at upwards of 3000 *l*.

A little North-weſt of *Atherſton* ſtands *Poleſworth*, formerly a Market-town; but ſince the Diſſolution of a famous Nunnery, which was there, the Market was diſcontinued.

From *Atherſton* we turned Eaſt again, into *Leiceſterſhire*, to ſee *Boſworth-field*, famous for the great Battle which put an End to the Reign of *Richard* III. and to the long and bloody Contention between the *Red Roſe* and the *White*, or the two Royal Houſes of

of *York* and *Lancaſter*; which, as Fame tells us, had coſt the Lives of 11 Princes, 23 Earls and Dukes, 3000 Noblemen, Knights, and Gentlemen, and 200,000 of the common People. We viewed the Spot of Ground where the Battle was fought; and at the Town they ſhewed us ſeveral Pieces of Swords, Heads of Lances, Barbs of Arrows, Pieces of Pole-axes, and ſuch-like Inſtruments of Death, which they ſaid were found by the Country-people in the ſeveral Grounds near the Place of Battle, as they had occaſion to dig, or trench, or plow the Ground.

Within three Miles of this Place is an antient Market-town, of the ſame Name, lying on an Hill, in a very healthy and pleaſant Air. The Soil all round it is fruitful, both for Tillage and Paſture.

Hence I paſſed directly North to *Aſhby de la Zouch*, on the Skirts of *Derbyſhire*, a very pleaſant Town, lying between two Parks. It conſiſts but of one Street, in which ſtands a pretty Stone Croſs: the Church is large and handſome, and 'tis famous for four good Horſe-fairs in the Year.

We then paſſed South-eaſt into *Leiceſterſhire*. The Earl of *Stamford* has a good old Hunting-ſeat on this Side of the Country, called *Bradgate*, and a fine Park at *Grooby*; but they were too much out of our Way; ſo we came on through a fine Foreſt to *Leiceſter*.

Leiceſter is an antient large and populous Town, containing five Pariſhes; 'tis the Capital of the County of that Name, and ſtands on the River *Soar*, which riſes not far from *High-croſs*, juſt mentioned: it is a Borough and Corporation-town, whereof the chief Magiſtrate is a Mayor, who is aſſiſted by a Recorder, Aldermen, and Common-council. This Town ſends two Repreſentatives to Parliament. Here are three Markets weekly, well ſupplied with Proviſions. A conſiderable Manufacture is carried on here, and in

ſeveral

ſeveral of the Market-towns around, for weaving of Stockens by Frames; and one would ſcarce think it poſſible ſo ſmall an Article of Trade could employ ſuch Multitudes of People as it does; for the whole Country ſeems to be buſied in it: as alſo *Nottingham* and *Derby*; of which hereafter.

The County of *Leiceſter* is in part alſo taken up in Counry Buſineſs, more particularly in breeding and feeding Cattle. Moſt of the Gentlemen are Graſiers; and in ſome Places the Graſiers are ſo rich, that they grow Gentlemen: 'tis not an uncommon thing for Graſiers here to rent Farms from 500 *l.* to 2000 *l.* a Year.

The Sheep bred in this County and *Lincolnſhire*, which joins to it, are, without Compariſon, the largeſt, and bear not only the greateſt Weight of Fleſh on their Bones, but alſo the greateſt Fleeces of Wool on their Backs, of any Sheep in *England*: and hence it is, that theſe Counties become vaſt Magazines of Wool for the reſt of the Nation. Nor is the Wool leſs fine becauſe of the great Quantity; but as it is the longeſt *Staple*, as the Clothiers call it, ſo it is the fineſt Wool in the whole Iſland, ſome few Places excepted; ſuch as *Leominſter* in *Herefordſhire*, the *South Downs* in *Suſſex*, and ſuch little Places, where the Quantity is ſmall and inſignificant, compared to this Part of the Country; for the Sheep-breeding Country reaches from the River *Anker*, on the Border of *Warwickſhire*, to the *Humber*, at the fartheſt End of *Lincolnſhire*, which is near 100 Miles in Length; and from the Bank of *Trent*, in *Lincolnſhire* and *Leiceſterſhire*, to the Bank of *Ouſe*, bordering on *Bucks*, *Bedford*, *Cambridge*, and *Huntingdon* Shires, above ſixty Miles in Breadth.

Theſe are the Funds of Sheep which furniſh the City of *London* with their large Mutton, in ſuch prodigious Quantities. There are indeed a few Sheep

of

of a large Breed, which are brought up from *Romney Marſh*, and the adjoining low Grounds in *Kent* and *Suſſex*; but they are few, and indeed ſcarce worth naming, compared to what are produced in theſe Counties.

The Horſes bred, or rather fed, here are the largeſt in *England*, being generally the great black Coach and Dray-horſes; of which ſo great a Number are continually ſent up to *London*, that one would think ſo little a Spot as this of *Leiceſterſhire* could not poſſibly produce ſo many. But the adjoining Counties of *Northampton* and *Bedford* have of late come into the ſame Buſineſs. The chief Supply, however, is from this County, from whence the other Counties rather buy them, and feed them up as Jockeys and Chapmen, than breed them up from their Beginning.

In the South-weſt Part of the Country riſe four conſiderable ſecond-rate Rivers, which run every one a directly contrary Courſe, in a moſt remarkable Manner.

1. The *Avon*, which runs by *Rugby*, and goes away to *Warwick* South-weſt.

Of this River the Poet elegantly ſings:

Yet rolling Avon *ſtill maintains its Stream,*
Swell'd with the Glories of the Roman *Name.*
Strange Pow'r of Fate! unſhaken *Moles muſt waſte,*
While Things that ever move, *for ever* laſt.

2. The *Soar*, which runs by *Leiceſter*, and goes away to the *Trent*, North-weſt.

3. The *Anker*, which runs by *Nun-Eaton*, and goes away to *Atherſton*, North; and ſo on to *Tamworth*, Weſt.

4. The *Welland*, which runs by *Harborough*, and goes away to *Stamford*, North-eaſt.

I ought

I ought not to omit obſerving, that as the Town of *Leiceſter* was formerly very ſtrong and well fortified, being advantageouſly ſituated for that Purpoſe, the River covering it half-way about, ſo it was again fortified in the unhappy Civil Wars; and, being gariſoned by the Parliament-Forces, was aſſaulted by the Royaliſts, who, after an obſtinate Defence, took it Sword in Hand, which occaſioned a terrible Slaughter. They preſerve here a moſt remarkable Relique of Antiquity, being a Piece of moſaick Work at the Bottom of a Cellar; 'tis the Story of *Actæon*, and his being killed by his own Hounds, wrought as a Pavement in a moſt exquiſite Manner; the Stones are only of two Colours, white and brown, and very ſmall.

The Caſtle here, before it was diſmantled, was a prodigious Building. It was the Court of the great *Henry* Duke of *Lancaſter*, who added to it 26 Acres of Ground; which he incloſed with a very ſtrong Wall of ſquare Stone, 18 Feet high, and called it his *Novum opus*, vulgarly now the *Newark*, where the beſt Houſes in or near *Leiceſter* are, and do ſtill continue extraparochial. The Hall and Kitchen of this Place remain ſtill intire, as Teſtimonies of the Grandeur of the Whole; the former being ſo lofty and ſpacious, that the Courts of Juſtice, which in Aſſize-time are held there, are at ſuch a Diſtance, as to give no Diſturbance to one another. There are ſeveral Gate-ways to enter this Palace; and that which faces the Eaſt has an Arch that is deemed a curious Piece of Architecture; over which in the Tower is kept the Magazine for the Militia of the County.

Beneath this Caſtle was a very fair Collegiate Hoſpital, in the Church whereof, *Henry* Earl of *Lancaſter*, and *Henry* his Son, the firſt Duke of it, were buried: the Hoſpital was built by the Duke in his old Age, and appropriated for the Maintenance of 100 poor People, in which alſo he placed a Dean and 12 Canons,

Canons, Prebendaries, with as many Vicars and other Miniſters, and ten able Women to ſerve and aſſiſt the Poor and Weak. This, with Divine Service therein, doth in ſome meaſure ſtill ſubſiſt by certain Stipends paid out of the Duchy of *Lancaſter*. Another Hoſpital built by Sir *William Wigſton*, in the Reign of King *Henry* VIII. is in a very flouriſhing Condition there.

Leiceſter is the *Ratæ Coritanorum* of the *Romans*. The Trace of the *Roman* Wall is diſcoverable without Difficulty, eſpecially in the Gardens about *Senvygate*, with a Ditch, which is very viſible. This was repaired by *Edelfleda*, a noble *Saxon* Lady, in the Year 914. The old Work called *Jewry-wall* is compoſed of Rag-ſtone, and *Roman* Brick.

Not far off is a Place called *Holy-bones*, where abundance of Bones of Oxen have been dug up, which were the Remains of the *Roman* Sacrifices.

At *Leiceſter* many *Roman* Coins are found; a Pot full of them was dug up at the Entrance into *Whitefriers*. There are alſo many great Foundations. At *St. Mary de Pree*'s Abbey a Body was dug up, ſuppoſed to be Cardinal *Wolſey*'s.

Since its Diſſolution it has been made a Dwelling-houſe, which has nothing left but the naked Walls, and the Spot of the Abbey is turned into a Garden. The only thing worth ſeeing in it is a pleaſant Terrace-walk, ſupported by an embattled Wall, with Lunets hanging over the River, and ſhaded with Trees.

In the Time of the *Saxons*, *St. Margaret*'s Church was an Epiſcopal See, and was very fine. Here, ſay ſome, King *Richard* III. was buried.

Half a Mile Southward from *Leiceſter*, upon the Edge of the Meadows, is a long Ditch, called *Rawdikes*; on the Banks of which, according to Tradi-

tion,

tion, King *Charles* I. ſtood to behold the Storm of the Town. That Prince lay at the Vicarage-houſe at *Elſton*.

South-eaſt of *Leiceſter* lies *Billeſden*, a Market-town of no Note: and further South ſtill is *Hallaton*, another Town noted for its Poverty, in the midſt of a rich Soil.

The *Foſſe-way* leads from hence thro' the North-weſt Part of this County; but, entering *Nottinghamſhire*, it inclines North-eaſt, through the Vale of *Belvoir*, or, as it is commonly called, of *Bever*, to *Newark*. In all this long Tract, we paſs through a rich and fertile Country, having in our Coaſt North-eaſtward the noble River *Trent*, for 20 Miles together, often in our View.

But ſome Miles North of *Leiceſter* the River *Wrek*, which comes from the North-eaſt, and the *Stour*, which runs North-weſt, form a kind of Y; the *Stour* from *Leiceſter* Southward making the Tail. In the Courſe laſt-mentioned we paſſed through *Montſorrel* and *Loughborough*, both Market-towns, lying on the *Foſſe*, which runs nearly parallel with the *Stour*, and makes one Side of the Y. The firſt is ſituate under a great Eminence, and has a good Stone Bridge over the *Stour*; and the other is ſeated among rich Meadow-ground, and is a fine agreeable Town. And on the *Wrek*, which makes the other Side of the Y, ſtand *Melton Mowbray*, a large well-built conſiderable Market-town, ſituate in a fertile Soil, almoſt ſurrounded with a little River called the *Eye*, over which it has two fine Bridges; and alſo *Waltham on the Would* (*i. e.* on the Downs), which is but a mean Market-town.

Near *Loughborough* is the Seat of the Right Honourable the Earl of *Huntingdon*, adorned with Wood and Water. The Houſe is old, and not ſo well ſituated

ated as could be wiſhed; but the Park is eſteemed one of the moſt beautiful in this County: and the Seat is from it called *Donnington Park*.

Belvoir-Caſtle, ſtanding within *Lincolnſhire*, but on the Edge of *Leiceſterſhire*, is a truly noble Situation, tho' on a very high Precipice; 'tis the antient Seat of the Dukes of *Rutland*, a Family riſen by juſt Degrees to an immenſe Height both of Honour and Wealth. I ſhall mention the Houſe again in my Return out of *Lincolnſhire*.

Bingham in *Nottinghamſhire* lying in our Way to *Newark*, we paſſed thro' it. It is a ſmall Market-town; but is noted for a Parſonage of great Value.

At *Newark* one can hardly ſee, without Regret, the Ruins of that famous Caſtle, which through all the Civil War in *England* kept a ſtrong Gariſon for the King to the laſt, and ſo cut off the greateſt Paſs into the North that is in the whole Kingdom; nor was it ever taken, till the King, preſſed by the Calamity of his Affairs, put himſelf into the Hands of the *Scots* Army, which lay before it, and then commanded the Governor to deliver it up; after which it was demoliſhed, that the great Road might lie open and free; and it remains in Rubbiſh to this Day.

The Caſtle was built here by *Alexander* Biſhop of *Lincoln*, in the Reign of King *Stephen*; and the Town took its Name from that New Work.

This Town was certainly raiſed from the neighbouring *Roman* Cities, and has been walled about with their Remains. The Northern Gate is compoſed of Stones ſeemingly of a *Roman* Cut: and perhaps they had a Town here; for many Antiquities are found about it. Here are two fine Stone Croſſes. A Gentleman, digging to plant ſome Tree by the *Foſſe* Road Side, diſcovered four Urns in a ſtrait Line,

and at equal Diſtances, in one of which was a Braſs *Lar*, or Houſhold-god, an Inch and half long, but much conſumed by Ruſt.

Newark is a very handſome well-built Town, ſituate on the *Trent*, under the Government of a Mayor and 12 Aldermen. The Market-place is a noble Square, and the Church is large and ſpacious, with a curious Spire, which, were not *Grantham* ſo near, might paſs for the fineſt and higheſt in all this Part of *England*. The *Trent* divides itſelf here, and makes an Iſland, and the Bridges lead juſt to the Foot of the Caſtle Wall; ſo that while this Place was in the Hands of any Party, as I have before hinted, there was no Traveling but by their Leave; but all the Traveling into the North at that Time was by *Nottingham* Bridge. *Newark* returns two Members to Parliament.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.

4 FE 64

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TO THE

SECOND VOLUME.

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